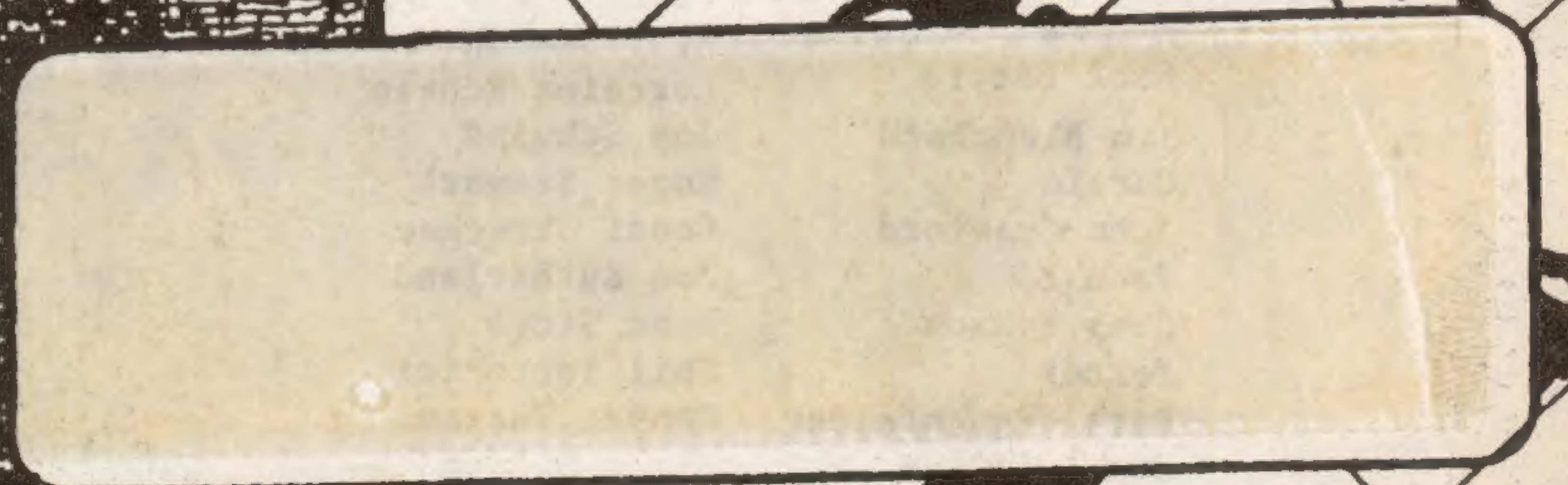


FACTSHEET

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALBANY, NY
PERMIT NO. 8

Mike Gunderloy
6 Arizona Ave.
Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502
Address Correction Requested



Front cover and back cover copyright © Ferret 1987

Artwork by A copyright © A 1984

This magazine is not copyrighted. You may reprint whatever you wish, with the exception of the art noted above. It would be nice, though not mandatory, if credit were given to FACTSHEET FIVE.

ISSN 0890-6823



Founder Emeritus
St. Michael D. Miller, retd.

Spiritual Advisor
St. Stephen Xavier of Trever

Visual Arts Critic
Anni Ackner (on vacation)

Poetry Critic
P.J. Bellomo

Official Curmudgeon
Garry De Young

Experioddica Reviewer
Bob Grumman

Official Conspirator
Kerry W. Thornley, KSC

Aural Arts Critics
Carol Schutzbank
Shane Williams (in the pokey)

Contributing Artists

A	Larry Loc
AFM	J.P. Morgan
Carl Alessi	Pete "Lobo" Nemec
Andy Amster	Lawrence Oberc
Ace Backwords	Pedro
Michael Behaviour	A.C. Samish
Carl Bettis	Lorraine Schein
Jim Blanchard	Joe Schwind
Carrie	Roger Stewart
John Crawford	Candi Strecker
John E.	Zen Sutherland
Greg Evason	Luna Ticks
Ferret	Phil Tortorici
Mark Frauenfelder	Denver Tucson
James Fringe	Blair Wilson
Glenn Grant	Lynne Alisse Witten

Column headings by

AFM
Freddie Baer
Carrie
John E.
Sarah Folkman
Mark Frauenfelder
Glenn Grant
Nancy G. McClernan
J.P. Morgan
Lawrence Oberc
Leigh Perry
Joe Schwind
Luna Ticks

Front Cover by
Ferret

Moral Support & Production Assistance
Carolyn MacDonald

New Age Researcher
Remy Chevalier

Official Supernumerary
Mike Gunderloy

Cleaning By
The Friendly Janitors, Inc.

Ontological Advice Supplied by
Committee for the Dissemination
of Multiple Realities
The King of Mice Foundation
for Inquiry

The Aeditor's Office Decor by
Mr. Fred of Brooklyn

Dangerous Drugs Courtesy of
Vitamin A Imports, Inc.

Approved by
Eighteenth Century
Communications, Ltd.

FACTSHEET FIVE is published four times a year, appearing in the mails during the first week of February, May, August and November. Subscriptions are available at \$2.00 (cash, check, Money Order or mint US postage stamps) per issue, up to 4 issues in advance. These copies are sent Bulk Mail within the US, First Class to Canada and Mexico, and Surface Mail overseas.

First class subscriptions within the US are available at \$2.75 per issue, while Overseas Airmail may be had for \$5.00 per issue. A Lifetime Subscription, with First Class mailing anywhere on the continent, is \$50. If anyone wants an Overseas Lifetime Subscription, I'll negotiate.

Deadlines for FACTSHEET FIVE are the 20th of January, April, July and October.

FACTSHEET FIVE advertising space is available as follows:

	Unreduced	To be reduced
Full Page	7 1/2" x 9 3/4"	11 1/4" x 14 3/4"
Half Page	7 1/2" x 4 3/4"	11 1/4" x 7 1/4"
Half Page	3 3/4" x 9 3/4"	5 1/2" x 14 3/4"
Quarter Page	3 3/4" x 4 3/4"	5 1/2" x 7 1/4"
Eighth Page	3 3/4" x 2 1/4"	5 1/2" x 3 1/4"
Business Card	2 1/4" x 2"	3 1/2" x 3"

Copy for FACTSHEET FIVE is reduced to 66% of its original linear dimensions. The first column shows width by height for ads to be run exactly as submitted, without reduction. The second column shows width by height for ads to be reduced along with the rest of the publication. Current advertising rates are:

Full Page	\$75.00
Half Page	\$40.00
Quarter Page	\$25.00
Eighth Page	\$12.50
Business Card	\$ 7.50

Ads which are paid in advance for two or more insertions may take a 20% discount from the above prices.

A glossary of unusual terms used in FF is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Factsheet Five

Welcome to another issue of the zine of crosscurrents and cross-pollination. Available by mail or in person from Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502; phone (518)-479-3086 (no calls after 10PM EST); 300 baud phone (518)-479-3879 (call anytime). This is Pretzel Press publication #718, and is intended for direct Bulk Mailing to subscribers and good people across the country, around the world, and right into your face. Press run: 2000 copies. 24th issue, November 1987.

This is where I explain the mailing code, on the far right of the first line of the address label.

A number indicates the last issue that you'll be getting. So if the number is "24", you need to Do Something if you want to keep getting FF. If the number is "24" and you don't even know why you got this, you probably have a Secret Admirer or something. Wanna subscribe?

"+" indicates that you've got nothing to worry about, because you're on the staph, you won a contest, or you just got lucky.

"A" means that you're getting this because of your artwork; either you sent me some or I want you to send me some, or both.

"B" means I'm trading for a book you sent.

"D" means that you're a distributor and so you get one copy for yourself as a freebie. I'm looking for new distributors, people who think they can sell at least ten copies and want to split the proceeds. Distributors get a 40% wholesale discount on all copies, and may sell on consignment. The number after the colon is how many copies I think I'm sending you.

"L" means that you are a Lifetime Subscriber, and therefore exempt from nonsense. Lifetime subscribers get their issues sent First Class. They also got free copies of NOTES OF A NEON GRINGO when it came out. Really, it's a great deal. Right now we're up to 9 lifetime subscribers, but it would be nice to have an even ten.

"M" means you sent me music to review, or that you promised to send me music in the future. I usually allow 2 issues for a single, 3 for a tape, or 4 for an LP, but I screw up a bit, so let me know if you're owed more. (Or less).

"P" means you're a prisoner. FACTSHEET FIVE is always free to prisoners, but you need to keep in touch to keep getting it, otherwise I'll assume the copies aren't getting through to you. Wardens, you gotta pay like anyone else. Prisoners in mental institutions are extended the same privileges as those in allegedly-saner criminal institutions.

"R" means that this is a review/checking copy. It is for you to have to check the review I've done of your zine, or to be able to do a review of mine. I would like to see further copies of yours for future review. I will continue to send you R copies as long as I stay on your mailing list; whether you write reviews or not. If you're infrequent, I expect at least a note every six months to keep you on the mailing list. "R?"

means that I'd like you to consider sending copies of your zine in return for review/checking copies of mine.

Any of the above followed by a number (like "M/24") indicate the issue you'll have to renegotiate to keep getting FF. YOU MUST GET IN TOUCH WITH ME AT LEAST ONCE EVERY TWO ISSUES, REGARDLESS OF THE MAILING CODE, TO CONTINUE GETTING FF! THIS APPLIES TO PRISONERS, ARTISTS, TRADERS, EVERYONE! Send me your zine, drop me a line, do SOMETHING so I know you're still out there. Actually, this doesn't apply to subscribers, only to people getting the zine for free. Clear?

And remember, FF is sent BULK MAIL. Not only does this make it slow (though, I hope, not TOO slow), but it means undeliverable copies go to that Big Post Office In The Sky. So PLEASE get your COAs to me promptly to avoid missing issues. I am not responsible for copies lost due to unannounced moves.

Subscription rates are on the Staph page, but here they are again: \$2.00 (cash, check, money order or US stamps) per issue for a regular sub. I used to give a discount for payment in stamps but no longer -- the bookkeeping was too

much. Those in the US can subscribe for \$2.75 an issue and get FF delivered First Class instead of Bulk Mail. Those overseas can get Airmail delivery for \$5 per issue. Any of these rates are good for up to 4 issues in advance, protecting you from price rises for a full year. Send money for more than 4 issues and I'll take it as a welcome donation. (Be sure to specify if you're sending money for a 1st class subscription!)

If anyone wants to buy a lifetime subscription (lifetime of the magazine, that is), I'll sell you one for \$50. Or make me a reasonable offer of trade or barter. So far there are nine lifetime subscribers -- shouldn't you be the tenth?

Thanks to Bag of Water, J.C. Brainbeau, Pressurized Sperm Aerosol, Donald Sauter, and Donna Young for their generous donations towards publishing this issue.

IMPORTANT NOTE: I do NOT accept used postage stamps in payment!

If you want FF sent to a friend, just send me their address and \$2, or \$2.75 if you're in a hurry. FF makes a great Christmas, birthday, or Bar Mitzvah present. I'll mark it as a gift from you unless you specify otherwise.

In lieu of sending stamps, money, fanzines, artwork, books, or music, you can get FF by sending me something to review that I haven't seen before, or by bartering dangerous drugs, canned goods, or negotiable securities.

Thanks to Uwe Behrendt, Jon Bekken, Bob Black, Brian Blight, Mykel Board, John Bridgman, Richard Bruno, Dave Burokas, Michael Chocholak, Tim Cridland, Mary Dixon, Jim Downard, Vicki Ellett, Tom Gill, Jordan Gruener, Guttorm, Jay Harber, Hodad, David Jewell, Matt Love, Jim Martin, Charles Platt, James Reid-Cunningham, Jeff Smith, Mary Sobolewski, Hal Speer, Dallas Swan, Dave Szurek, tentatively a convenience, Jim Testa, Tim Wicinski, and Martin Morse Wooster for sending zines for me to review in this issue.

What won't work is sending too little money, non-credible threats, or just begging. Sorry, them's the breaks.

TWO THINGS YOU SHOULD NOTICE

* You can contact the Electronic Factsheet Five computer bulletin board 24 hours a day at (518)-479-3879. There are maybe a dozen folks calling regularly now, and we're having a lot of fun talking about zines, music, social problems, and whatever else crosses our mind. All you need is a computer and a 300 baud modem.

* You can get free fanzines from the Factsheet Five Zine Exchange. See the NEWS section for details.





CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

- * A, publisher of FAUX PAS [FF23 p.60] has relocated to 810 5th Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98109.
- * ANTI-MEDIA and publisher Zeno have flown like arrows to PO Box 1865, Olympia, WA 98507-1865
- * A.S.P. is biting at 985 Pine St. #10, San Francisco, CA 94108.
- * BAG OF WIRE EXPOSE and the enigmatic A.Y.O. Dot have escaped to PO Box 1040, Boston, MA 02205.
- * BVI-CENTRAL is now at PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843.
- * CIRCULAR, Carol Schneck, and Charlie Nash have recirculated to PO Box 6013, East Lansing, MI 48823.
- * THE DILLINGER RELIC may be examined at PO Box 52028, Durham, NC 27717.
- * FUNHOUSE and Lang Thompson have laughed their way all the way to PO Box 49604, Atlanta, GA 30359.
- * GUBBA GUB COMICS has move-a moved to 321 W. Mifflin St. #6, Madison, WI 53703-2565.
- * INTERRUPT NOW is at 1214 Chapel St. #C, New Haven, CT 06511.
- * ISSUE #69 now issues from 1050 Foothill Blvd. #353, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.
- * JAVA and Ann Wood are getting their coffee c/o What's This?, 303 St. Joseph St., Columbia, MO 656201-4936.
- * J.D.s are now incarcerated at 2154 Dundas St. W. #401, Toronto, ONT M6R 1X3, CANADA.
- * JND is noted at PO Box 66704, Los Angeles, CA 91408.
- * KIDS LIB NEWS and Mycall Sunanda are sunning themselves at 1522 Orchard, Eugene, OR 97403.
- * LITTLE FREE PRESS is back at 2714 1st Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408.
- * LOMAKATSI went to Box 633, 1377 K St. NW, Washington, DC 20005.
- * Alex McKale went cross-country to 1047 SW 13th St., Corvallis, OR 97333. I dunno if he's still pubbing ELITIST ENNUI or not.
- * Meta Meta records has moved moved to PO Box 486, c/o Raw Ltd., Philadelphia, PA 19105-0486.
- * The National Alliance of Pantheists are napping at PO Box 99, Anson, ME 04911-0099.
- * NOMADIC UNDERGROUND and Brad Sigal have migrated to 1900 F St. NW #532, Washington, DC 20006.
- * NO PRESS and Brad Johnson have moved to 3205 N. Clark #405, Chicago, IL 60657.
- * OSIRIS has risen at 85C Darlene Rd. SE, Rio Rancho, NM 87124-2759.
- * PHILLY ZINE is still in the right city at 108 Rochelle Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19128.
- * PHOEBE and James MacDougall are revolving again at 3220 N St. NW #333, Washington, DC 20007.
- * PHOTOSTATIC may be seen at 424 E. Jefferson #4, Iowa City, IA 52240.
- * POSTWAR now sends postcards from PO Box 21534, Long Beach, CA 90802.
- * RAW POGO ON THE SCAFFOLD and Eric have hopped over to 449 S. 43rd St., Philadelphia, PA 19104.
- * ROCK N' BISCUITS & Libby Gast are chowing down at 3704C Manor Dr., Greensboro, NC 27403.
- * Studio X and their magazine PUNX are still together at PO Box 420371, Houston, TX 77242-0371.
- * Swinging Axe Productions swung over to PO Box 199, Northridge, CA 91328.
- * Theatre of Ice have resurfaced at 423 N. Creston #154, Mesa, AZ 85203.
- * WDC PERIOD and Chow Chow Productions are now c/o Satellite Foundation, PO Box 39074, Washington, DC 20016
- * ZOMBIE TRAIN and the Ultimate List have chugged off to 1822 Blake St., Berkeley, CA 94703.

Remember, since it costs me 30 cents just to get your COA if the Post Office tells me, and remailing your FF would cost me the price of another copy plus first class postage (they don't return whole issues, just covers), I'm not inclined to send you a replacement when this happens. If you want to keep your collection current, send me your Change of Address as soon as you know it!

LOST ADDRESSES:

Anyone got a current address for these?

- * A.T.S., the Pittsburgh band
- * BETTER THAN NOTHING
- * BI-MONTHLY
- * FREEDOM COMMENTARY
- * FREE TNT
- * GEORGE THE N.W.A.
- * HIDE, the Toronto cassettezine publishers.
- * Incas Records
- * The US Pyramid Party, formerly of Seattle
- * Alison Windham, from Seattle, who requested a copy and didn't give me any return address.
- * THE WOLSKE'S BAY STAR

DEAD ZINES:

All of the following have ceased publication lately.

- * ASTRAL AVENUE
- * THE AUREA FLAMMA (suspending publication until mid-1988)
- * BUS NINE FROM OUTER SPACE
- * K.P., INC
- * MYSTIC PRESS

T-SHIRTS:

Yes, they're still coming. This time around, we've the following additions to my wardrobe. Remember, I love to advertise for the lunatic fringe, and the preferred size is Medium.

* AFM (18 NW 100 St., Miami, FL 33150) writes, "Yes, even our shirts are free". However, as they seem to be coming out of the Mail Art ethos or some variant thereof, I suspect they're fairly picky about who to send them to, and would appreciate seeing some evidence of your own creativity in trade. In any case, the shirt at hand is screened in sort of a salmon on black, and features a complex, neo-Hippie mandalic design across the chest. The art is actually rather stunning, something of a Peter Max feel, only more organic.

* G.G. Allin (\$10 from PO Box 54, Hookset, NH 03106) has taken time off from his busy schedule of recording obscene music and flinging shit at people from the stage of small clubs to have T-shirts made. They're in his "Public Animal" motif, and feature a drawing of GG's head on the body of a rather mangy dog. The dog is doing a nasty right on the shirt, which is printed in two colors: black and shit brown. The whole is captioned "G.G. ALLIN!! PUBLIC ANIMAL" and will certainly get you noticed, if not thrown in the slammer. (Remember, the Supreme Court has held that obscene language on clothing is protected speech). Certainly the most provocative shirt yet sent to this column.

* THE DANGEROUS TIMES (\$8 from Josh, 32 Chestnut Hill, Greenfield, MA 01301): This shirt features the title of the zine and a stark black-and-white photo/drawing of a man screaming in pain or insanity. Sure to make people cross to the other side of the street when they see you approach, especially if you mutter something about the end of the world coming. One-of-a-kind two-color versions are available for \$16.

* THE INTERNATIONAL PRIMATE PROTECTION LEAGUE (\$10 from IPPL, PO Box 766, Summerville, SC 29484) sent me a stunning Mountain Gorilla T-shirt, featuring a mother and a baby gorilla, screened in a couple of different colors. I'm probably not even going to get to wear it because my wife has been casting envious glances at it all evening. As an added bonus, money for their shirts (they have Chimpanzee and Gibbon shirts as well) goes to a variety of conservation projects, including the protection of gorillas in Uganda and the support of the gibbons (mostly research veterans) at the IPPL sanctuary. Socially conscious and a darned good-looking shirt as well.

* The SNAKEPIT shirt (\$6 from Dunghill Recordings, PO Box 3766, Eugene, OR 97403 -- \$1 off is accompanied by a cassette order) is the sort of thing one expects from a drug-addled

psychedelic band, which is to say that I like it very much. The front is a lovely fluorescent pink and blue Moire pattern, used as a backdrop for the band's hand-with-eye emblem. The back spells out the band name in sign language, over a nice reproduction of a skeletal snake. Guaranteed to make people ask questions.

* THE WALLMEN (\$6 from 7711 Lisa Ln., North Syracuse, NY 13212): This is a lovely psychotic black-on-white production, featuring mutants, spermatozoa, mutilatable cows, an opening Eye, one-celled fripperies, and other congeries of SubGenial imagery, without being so blatant as to put "Bob" right up front.

CALENDARS

I guess it's that time of year again...

* J.C. Coleman, THE NASTY, DIRTY, KINKY, FILTHY, X-RATED CALENDAR FOR 1988 (\$2 from PO Box 85807, Seattle, WA 98145): Notably and rightfully missing from the list of adjectives is "redeeming" or "liberated". Coleman seems to believe that a woman's breasts are inherently funny, or at least worth putting on a calendar, even in a poor photocopy. Yes, there are a few cocks as well, but not many. The jokes are pretty flat too. All in all, not worth going after.

* Johnny Marr, THE MURDER CAN BE FUN 1988 DATEBOOK (\$2 CASH from PO Box 640111, San Francisco, CA 94109): Well, you've all heard me rave about what a great zine MURDER CAN BE FUN is -- now Johnny has provided us with even more fun. This is basically a two-weeks-at-a-glance desk calendar with some cheery event for every day of the year. The dates are all things like the death of John Birch or the Manson murders or Black September terrorist actions or Son of Sam born or...well, you get the idea. "Death - Disaster - Destruction - Doom" is Johnny's own subtitle for this collection, and it's worth getting just to cheer you through the next year. As a bonus, each page is decorated with a quote from some well-known creep.

BUTTONS:

What next, stained-glass window reviews?

* The prolific folks at AFM (18 NW 100 St., Miami, FL 33150) sent me a couple of "Armchair Power" buttons, featuring a mildly op-art black-and-red geometric design. Ideal for those of us who proclaim ourselves as armchair anarchists. Like everything else from AFM (see my words on their T-shirt above) this is available "as a gift".

OTHER NEWS:

* 18 West, a club in Westport, is hosting a "Media networking night" with experimental video every Tuesday. Contact Remy Chevalier, PO Box 742, Westport, CT 06881.

* AES-NIHIL PRODUCTIONS (PO Box 613, Reseda, CA 91335) has an extensive list of Manson Family related books, films, and recordings available for sale or trade. Send an SASE for their list, I guess.

* The Agorist Institute (236 E. Third St. #201, Long Beach, CA 90802) is still ramping up to full operation. They plan to take the economic world by storm with their version of anarcho-libertarianism, starting with college courses and seminars and books. Right now they're still looking for financial support.

* The Animal Liberation Front Support Group (PO Box 915, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT M4Y 2N9) is still soliciting funds for the legal defense of the folks who were busted up there for various ALF actions. If you want to contribute, you can send checks to "Mary Bartley, Barrister and Solicitor, 11 Prince Arthur Ave., Toronto, ONT M5R 1B2, CANADA" -- please note on the check that it's for "Toronto Animal Rights Defence Fund in Trust". Or you can write the PO Box for more info.

* The Archonist Club (682 Callahan Pl., Mendota Hts., MN 55118) has sent me copies of various "communiques" addressed to other magazines, in which they (or rather, "Archonist Regent" William Knaus) babble on about Zionist conspiracies, the Kennedy assassination as an example of cultural lag, and other incomprehensibilities. Attached clippings show that Knaus has been up to this stuff since 1965 or before. I have trouble extracting much of coherence from his stuff, but he seems to think that he and his fellow Archonists ought to be running things for the good of the rest of us.

* Basic Choices, Inc. (1023 Drake St., Madison, WI 53715-1609) is starting in on the 1989 Adult Educator's Almanac and Weekly Appointment Calendar. They're searching for

historic adult education dates, quotations on adult ed, and public domain graphics to use.

* The Birmingham Settlement (318 Summer Ln., Birmingham B19 3RL, UK) "was established in 1889 to assist disadvantaged people." They sent along a copy of their 1987 Annual Report, listing dozens of projects from a local credit union to an Urban Ecology demonstration site to a Future Studies Center. You can help by becoming a member for 10 pounds a year, or send them a few IRCs and see what publications they can pass along.

* Bomb Shelter Videos (c/o No Budget Productions, Frank Harlan, 603 13th Ave. E #4001, Seattle, WA 98102) is looking for independent music videos to syndicate around the country. Their tag line is "Art Thrash Noise Music", which should give you some idea of what they're looking for.

* Yvette Cadeaux (246 Chico Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95060) is writing a monthly column for Tower Records' PULSE! magazine, all about "underground music 'zines". This is a great way to get national exposure if you publish a pfnzine. Send a copy to Yvette, along with a few comments on why & how you're doing it.

* Cerebral Discourse (PO Box 95455, Seattle, WA 98145) is home to a number of posterists known as Phlegm Pats. They sent along a lovely selection of things to grace my office wall, including a nice poster for the coming movie "The JOB That Ate My Brain". An SASE or some art of your own might get you samples.

* The Committee on the Constitutional Crisis (16 Colonial Village, Amherst, MA 01002) has various posters and petitions available to aid in impeaching Ron Reagan. Send an SASE for materials.

* The Conservative Action Foundation (1326 G St. SE, Washington, DC 20003) has a four-page "Catalog for the Activist" apparently available for free. As far as I can tell all these posters and pamphlets and stickers supporting things like the "Peace Shield" and our revolution in Angola are free too.

* CONSERVATIVE DIGEST is starting something called "American Press International", a wire service available via modem to PC owners. As they say, "At last, all the news of interest to conservatives, hard money investors, and other good citizens...unfiltered through the liberal wire services...without the propaganda, sneers, and innuendos from those Three Stooges of the electronic media: Sam Donaldson, Dan Rather, and Tom Brokaw." There's a \$25 one-time fee plus a buck a call. Call toll free to sign up: 800-356-7111.

* Scott Byron, the editor of CMJ (830 Willis Ave., Albertson, NY 11507) says "We'll send a sample CMJ NEW MUSIC REPORT to anyone who asks. One per person, of course. It's an expensive mag, \$150/yr, but you can't beat a free sample."

* The Christian Anti-Communism Crusade (PO Box 890, Long Beach, CA 90801) will be happy to send samples of their 1987 Christmas card for the asking. This is one case where I'd just as soon you didn't mention FF when writing.

* Norman Crowhurst (PO Box 53, Dallas, OR 97338) has a package of information available for \$1, which will be of interest to many FF readers. In a series of broadsides and pamphlets he explains his theory as to what is wrong with America these days. Apart from the charges of Godlessness, the basic problem is the IRS -- which, he says, was created as a fifth column by the Nazis. It's all backed up with reason & references, although I haven't checked any of the latter.

* THE CRUSADE TO ABOLISH TRAFFIC TICKETS (PO Box 36641, Los Angeles, CA 90036) sent me another package of stuff. They feel that the traffic ticket system is prima facie illegal and propose to bring the system to its knees by encouraging everyone to take their traffic tickets to trial. They're offering an incentive plan for \$10 that promises to pay you \$100 if they don't manage to demolish traffic tickets. Send an SASE for more details.

* DADATA (PO Box 33, Stillwater, PA 17878) is out with a new set of posters, and I imagine you can get a selection for an SASE, as usual. These productions feature stark collages of words and art that tend to undermine the assumptions of our current social system. Put 'em up in your local Post Office.

* DAVOID (PO Box 348, Hawthorne, NJ 07507) sent me a single sheet of new wavish drawings headed "What People Think". It's a rather alienated selection, perhaps available for an SASE.

* DREAMSHORE (PO Box 1387, Bloomington, IN 47402) is looking for material that fits in with its original direction: "We are particularly interested in stories of children with psychic abilities or with magical perceptions. Personal folklore, your imaginary planet or country, and accounts of dreams (those you have had or those you would like to have) are most welcome." Submit material camera-ready, single-spaced and 35 columns wide. They're NOT looking at poetry or horror

stories.

* David Duke, "white-rights advocate" (i.e. minority-hating bigot) is running for the Democratic nomination for president. If you would like to have his campaign committee send you some free literature, you can write them at PO Box 65039, Washington, DC 20035.

* THE EVANGELIST is Jimmy Swaggart's magazine. He says he's lost \$12 million this year, and will probably lose more if you request your free copy from PO Box 2550, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-9943. There's a business reply envelope in every issue, too.

* Failed Artist Postcard #2 is out from Mumbles Publications (PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208). This one features Vincent Van Gogh, or more accurately, a drawing of the great man's ear, together with some notes on his miserable career. #1 in the series -- L'il Adolf -- sold out, but you can still get this collectors' item to the tune of five postcards for a buck.

* Flatland Distribution (1844 Foothill Blvd., Oakland, CA 94606) has published their first catalog of books, magazines and pamphlets -- mainly magazines. Many of the items they carry have been reviewed in FACTSHEET FIVE, and they add a few that I wouldn't touch with a stick, as well as Reichian pamphlets and some of the best small press books I've read. Their terms are attractive and so, for that matter, is the catalog itself. Write to get on their mailing list.

* Floating World (742 N. Cherokee Ave., Hollywood, CA 90038-3506) sent me a copy of their current stocklist of zines, records, and tapes. They have a fairly good stock of indie music, particularly imports. Try sending an SASE for a copy.

* H&R CORPORATION (401 E. Erie Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19134) has been sending out catalogs of surplus electronic & mechanical equipment for 53 years. They're big on things like synchronous motors and biscuit fans and rechargeable batteries, but sometimes deals like VIC-20 computers for \$15 creep into their pages. I've dealt with them and I'm satisfied. A nice letter will probably get you the current catalog.

* HUME FINANCIAL EDUCATION SERVICES (835 Franklin Ct., Box 105627, Atlanta, GA 30348) wants to know "Do YOU have what it takes to become a millionaire?" If so, they'll teach you how to parley your piggy bank into a seat on the NY Stock Exchange for only ten bucks a lesson -- with the first two lessons free. Send for their promo literature if you want a snicker -- financial advice for the hungry masses.

* Hydro-Tech (3939 Aurora Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98103) is an outfit that sells equipment for growing plants indoors through the mail. They have all the bulbs, reflectors, CO2 gauges, hydroponic tubing and accessories you could ever need. Write for a price list.

* INSIDE JOKE is, thanks to the price spiral, no longer able to trade with other zines. I think they're not much after more subscribers until things settle down either, so watch this space for more announcements next month.

* The Institute for Historical Review (1822 1/2 Newport Blvd. #191, Costa Mesa, CA 92627) has kept me on their mailing list despite my negative reviews. They claim to be interested in historical Revisionism of all types, but of course their main thrust is to prove the Holocaust never happened. If you must inquire, they're less rabid than most, though still not immune from Jew-baiting and intellectual arrogance.

* JENSEN (7815 S. 46th St., Phoenix, AZ 85044-5399); This is one of the catalogs I slaver over the way I used to do with the Sears Christmas catalog when I was a littler kid. Jensen sells a whole batch of nifty and high-quality tool kits and specialized tools like RS-232 testers, Torx screwdrivers, interchangeable nutdrivers and so on. I'm on the mailing list because they still think I'm an engineer, but you can probably get one for the asking. And if anyone has \$630 lying around, they could buy me a JTK-93 Service Master tool kit...

* Katlady (PO Box 7742, Salt Lake City, UT 84107) is looking for flyers, samples and whatnot to be distributed to people who write in about the Good Sex For Mutants Dating Service. Write for more details -- she's covering half the costs. She's also after submissions for the next couple of issues of the SubGeniod THE WHOLE SHMEER -- #10 is still available for 3 stamps.

* Knowledge Systems, Inc. (7777 W. Morris St., Indianapolis, IN 46231) now has Robert Theobald's book THE RAPIDS OF CHANGE, a guide to building a better society, available in paperback for \$7.50 postpaid.

* LIVING FREE, the journal of self-liberation, is having a sale on back issues -- 50 cents each while they last. Write to Jim Stumm, Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223 for more details.

* LUNO, the Learning Unlimited Network of Oregon (31960 SE Chin St., Boring, OR 97009) has issued a new catalog of Gene Lehman's Phonetic Spelling Labs tools for learning the English language. Gene's stuff is playful and fun, as well as educational. \$1 will get you a sample packet.

* DAVID McCALDEN'S REVISIONIST NEWSLETTER (\$2/yr from PO Box 3849, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266) is worth a mention. Though McCalden is in fact an ardent campaigner against the idea that the Holocaust occurred, that's not the focus here. Instead, it's a place to pick up Revisionist gossip -- who is working for (and/or suing) whom.

* MELROSE CATALOG (PO Box 36E64, Los Angeles, CA 90036) seems to exist mainly to sell the books, posters, coffee cups, T-shirts, notecards and other products designed by the fiendish Matt "Life in Hell" Groening. They also sell stuff by Lynda Barry and Gary Panter. It's mailed bulk rate, so maybe a nice letter would get you a copy.

* The National Center of Alternative Community Schools (RDI Box 378, Glenmoore, PA 19343) has a lot of projects going, including a new DIRECTORY listing 460 schools (\$12.50) and a regular newsletter (\$15/yr).

* NEW RAGE (PO Box 11492, Eugene, OR 97440) has issued a new posterist broadside titled "The Twelve Steps of X.X.", with an all-new twelve step program for the dissolution of modern society. Copy for SASE, I suppose.

* Gary North, the editor of REMNANT REVIEW, has recently announced the formation of a new multi-level marketing organization devoted to selling Christian books, music, and gifts. Contact him c/o Powerful Living, PO Box 8204, Fort Worth, TX 76124 for more information.

* NO WAY COMIX (332 Atlanta Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15228-1125) has published a set of four Louis Jordan Memorial Postcards. If you know who he is, the combination of halftone-photo faces and comic-style bodies is probably worth the \$1 they'll cost you.

* Pagan Parents' League Newsletter is temporarily on hold, as editor Belinda recovers from a serious accident.

* The Parnassus Fund (244 California St., San Francisco, CA 94111) is a socially-conscious, contrarian mutual fund. That is, they buy into what they feel are undervalued stocks, and limit themselves to companies that treat the world and their employees right. They've posted a few impressive gains, and would probably send you information for a polite request. The normal minimum investment is \$5000, but until the end of the year it's been lowered to \$2000 in an attempt to attract more investors.

* The Plymouth Rock Foundation (PO Box 425, Marlborough, NH 03455-0425) keeps sending me little packets of things like "Biblical Principles" and "FAC-Sheets" (the latest about the cost of government). I don't know why, but if you want some Christian politics getting on their list is probably an essay thing to do.

* Postwar USA (PO Box 21534, Long Beach, CA 90802) sent me another envelope full of subversive broadsides and handbills, printed in eye-catching colors and with a variety of anti-system messages. You can probably get samples for the asking, but I'm sure they'd appreciate something creative in return.

* Pueblo to People (1616 Montrose, Houston, TX 77006) is an importing company selling "Wonderful crafts, arts, and food from displaced Guatemalans, Salvadoran refugees, Honduran and Nicaraguan peasants." They return 40-50% of their income to the producers of the clothing, furniture and food they carry.

* RESURGENCE (PO Box 2824, Stn. A, Champaign, IL 61820) has published a single-sheet flyer about their anarchist philosophy and activities. Besides being interesting to those in the area, it's worth a look from other anarchists as a model for advertising. I'm sure they'd send you a copy for an SASE.

* SCUT (PO Box 14, Selden, NY 11784-0014) is looking for full- or half-page submissions of poetry and/or art for a special all-submission issue -- especially from folks who don't think they're poets or artists. Deadline is "Armageddon".

* SEE HEAR (59 E. 7th St., New York, NY 10003) sends along their 3rd mail order catalog, up to 36 pages of zines, tapes, videos, books, T-shirts and what not. They're good folks, so if one-stop shopping for fanzines interests you, send 'em 50 cents or so for a copy of the catalog.

* Seidboard World Enterprises (75 Bleecker St., New York, NY 10012) has announced the release of the first edition of THE WORLD FOR FREE ADDRESS BOOK. The World For Free is an organization of folks who agree to provide crash-space for each other, with members around the world. To get a copy, you have to join and provide information about your crash space; write for more details.

* The Star Fleet Printing Office (PO Box 20215, Baltimore, MD 21204) is offering a batch of new blueprints and model customization plans for the hardcore Trekkie. You can subscribe to the series for \$24 for the first six reports, or write for more details.

* Willowood Press (PO Box 1846, Minot, ND 58702) has available mailing label sets for public, college and high school libraries and college english departments. An SASE should get you their price list.

FACTSHEET FIVE PROJECTS:

* I now have a new set of FACTSHEET FIVE ads available, typeset and put together by the incomparable Freddie Baer. In the future I may swap or pay for some of these to be published, but meanwhile if you want to give me a free plug write and I'll send you a copy.

* @NARCHONOTES 3 is an account of my participation in the second annual continental anarchist gathering, which was held in Minneapolis in June. It includes my own thoughts plus a selection of the newspaper coverage, including quotes from and pictures of yours truly. If you're interested, you can buy a copy for \$1.50.

* I am still offering the FACTSHEET FIVE mailing list on self-adhesive labels. This issue's list of over 1500 names is available for \$45. If you prefer, you can get the list on plain paper for \$20. I can also provide specialty lists (all fanzines, all distributors, all music zines, all artists, or whatever else you can come up with) for 5 cents a name on labels or 3 cents a name on paper.

* I am also prepared to offer the mailing list or the contents of FF itself (sans art) on IBM-PC compatible DSDD diskettes. The mailing list is one diskette and I'll include the shareware DBMS I use on a second diskette. FF itself also takes up two diskettes. You can get either package of two diskettes for \$12, or all four diskettes for \$20.

* If anyone doesn't want their name given out on mailing labels or diskette, please let me know.

* The Gemstone File is a conspiratorial mishmash of theories that have been circulating in samisdat form around the US. I have copies of five different versions (something like 90 pages total) available for \$7.50 total to those interested in this sort of thing -- and I'm looking for more versions if you have any. (See the BOOKS section in FF22 for more precise details on this item.)

* Martti Koski's MY LIFE DEPENDS ON YOU, an account of RCMP mind control experiments, is available for \$1.

* NOTES OF A NEON GRINGGO, a booklet of writings by the one and only Kerry Thornley, is now available. This is 24 pages of Kerry's collected columns from past FFs, with collage art by Freddie Baer. Believe me, it looks spiffy. \$3 a copy, and 75% of the profits are going to Kerry.

* The FF ZINE EXCHANGE has been a great success this past quarter. ZINE EDITORS: If you're at all interested in having samples of your zine go to people who don't even know you exist, send as many as you want to me to distribute. The rest of you: Send me an SASE with 22 to \$2.40 postage and I'll stuff it with whatever I have laying about (\$2.40 is enough to mail a couple of pounds in the country, so use a decent-sized envelope). You might also take note of Merritt Clifton's (SAMISDAT) standing offer to sell you as many pounds as poetry as you want for a buck a pound. Anyhow, remember, send a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE to minimize the work I have to do. I mean it. The next person who sends a blank envelope and a check, instead of buying the stamps himself and pasting them on, is going to get something nasty in the mail. If he gets anything at all.

GETTING ZINES

Just a few hints to consider when you're writing away for fanzines:

* If I list a name in the address for a zine, you ought to make checks or money orders out to that name rather than the zine name. If a zine has odd payment requirements, I try to note this in the address section of the listing. In general, cash is preferable to money orders which are preferable to checks.

* On a related topic, when I put a question mark after the price it means that I'm guessing because the zine editors didn't list a price.

* On zines with a price under \$1, it really helps to include a few stamps for postage.

* Canadians generally don't mind receiving U.S. funds, but for other countries you should think about alternative payment. Foreign currency is available at larger banks,

and IRCs at your post office. Foreign MOs are also available from the post office, but can take forever to get.

* I'd appreciate it if you'd mention FACTSHEET FIVE when ordering zines you saw reviewed here. It helps us all in the long run, as the more credibility I build up the more fine zines I'll be able to bring to your attention.

* If you have any problems with a zine please let me know. I'll be happy to contact publishers in cases of non-receipt. 99% of the time it's just a case of things being lost in the mail.

* If you have time, any zine publisher enjoys hearing comments on the zine he has sent you. This is especially true if you didn't like it; we all like to improve. Even a simple note of thanks can make a publisher's day, though. * Many zine publishers print small quantities, so you may not be able to get the exact issue that I reviewed. If you MUST have that particular issue, say so, and be prepared to pay extra. Otherwise it's best just to request the most recent or the next issue and save trouble for everyone.

ZINES:

Sometimes people send me ads for zines rather than the zines themselves. Here's the dope:

* BODY, MIND & SPIRIT (PO Box 701, Providence, RI 02901) used to be PSYCHIC GUIDE, but they're upgrading, I guess.

* STEVE BARTWICK'S CHRISTIAN FREEDOM LETTER (Dept. A, 18021-J Skypark #1015, Irvine, CA 92714) is \$19/year and promises "inside details of the secret plans to uproot the U.S. Constitution".

* BVI-MORPOL (from J. Leroy, PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843) is apparently going to be a sort of apa for moral and political writing.

* CANDID CREST (\$2 from PO Box 23106, Columbus, OH 43223) is "a Newsletter that says what can't be said in white magic publications" - sex magic, demonology, Satanism and so on are all welcome.

* KMECKE IN ROCKODELSKE NOVICE (Tyrseva 28, 62000 Maribor, YUGOSLAVIA) is a monthly alternative newspaper about alternative cultures in Slovenia, with satiric pieces on actual Yugoslavian events. They're looking for trades.

* MICROWAVE NEWS calls itself "The radiation resource for effects on man and machine." \$200/yr from PO Box 1799, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163.

* PAGAN FREE PRESS (PO Box 55223, Tulsa, OK 74155) is apparently a new apa for Pagans, to debut in October 1987.

* THRUST claims to be the "most respected review magazine" of SF & fantasy. \$2.50 from 8217 Langport Terr., Gaithersburg, MD 20877.

* TWISTED (\$4 from Christine Hoard, 6331 N. Lakewood Ave., Chicago, IL 60660) is 76 pages of "Fiction - Art - Poetry" in the horror & fantasy genres.

Back issues of FACTSHEET FIVE are available as follows:

#1, 2, 3, 4, 17.1	\$1 each
#6, 9, 12, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23	\$2 each
#5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18	\$3 each
Complete set	\$45

The first four issues are ditto-printed and much smaller than those to follow. The remaining issues are either the original printing (\$2 issues) or xerox copies (\$3 issues), which look the same but cost me substantially more to make. All of the issues from #4 through #18 were in digest format, 8 1/2 by 5 1/2 inches. #17.1 was a 4-page supplement to #17. #19 was full-sized, 52 pages. #20 was 64 pages and the first of the current format, and #21 shot up to 80 pages. #22 and #23 were 72 pages.

SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*

I recently acquired a few remaindered copies of Jim Hougan's SECRET AGENDA, a book which I personally consider a "must have" for modern conspiracy buffs. Hougan is an experienced reporter who takes a long hard look at Watergate, exposing the inconsistencies in Woodward & Bernstein's story (and incidentally taking a look at Deep Throat's identity) and proposing a quite plausible alternative explanation that makes Nixon out to be a patsy. He also takes a passing look at the original Gemstone File kept by Liddy. Published at \$19.95, 350 hardcover pages -- I can let you have a copy for \$5 postpaid while they last.

Aditorial

"The latest issue was GREAT. But we couldn't find your review of our fanzine that we sent you three weeks ago! Did you get it? Don't you like us any more? Help!" I must see that letter a dozen times after every issue, and I really shouldn't. Pay attention, now. The deadline for each issue is the twentieth of the previous month. So the issue you get at the end of November -- this one -- contains reviews of things I received through October 20th. So if you sent something the last week of October, it should be reviewed in the next issue, not in this one. Yes, I know it's a long lead time, but that's what cheap printing plus bulk mail does to you. If anyone wants to make a substantial donation to improve this situation, please contact me.

"Thanks so much for the review. We got a dozen responses in the first month!" That's another letter I get a lot, and I think it's great. But some people aren't so convinced -- those who run little bitty fanzine and don't really want all that many readers. Let me remind those publishers that I do deal in unlisted fanzines. If you write and ask me, I will stop mentioning your endeavors in FF, and you can continue along at some affordable level of activity. Of course I'll still trade, if just to get copies of your zine for the FF archives.

And while I'm on the subject of common letters, there's "What a great zine! How do you ever find time to read all that stuff?" Well, damned if I know. But over the past few years I seem to have developed a workable system for doing FF -- Monday's mail gets opened on Monday and scanned for important things, logged in on Tuesday, and reviewed by Wednesday. It's simply a constant paper shuffle. Of course the fun comes in when I want to do music reviews, too. Or homework. Or gardening. But I manage. I'm still young and hyper, and I read fast. In a few years I expect that this system will fail, unless I can make a full time job out of FF. So tell all your friends to subscribe, and I'll be able to keep finding time to read everything, and report on it to you.

Finally, I want to mention a letter that wasn't sent to me. Luke McGuff wrote to his local free tabloid, out in Minneapolis, telling them to turn their readers on to FACTSHEET FIVE. He included my address in the letter and suggested that anyone interested in "the real fringe" send me \$2.75. Well, about a dozen people have (and if you're one of them, I do hope you're satisfied). Now, I'm sure there are lots of other free tabloids out there that would publish such a letter, if only you would find time to write one. How about it?

And now for the bad news: You will probably have already noticed that some of the print is smaller this time around. It was either that or cut out some of the features because I simply could not afford to print (or mail) 80 pages. So unless you good folks come up with some ads or lifetime subscriptions or donations or something, the print may just keep getting smaller. Or columns will get thrown out. Or something. #23 lost about \$500 and that isn't insignificant on my budget.

Tarot Readings, Prayer Healings, Psychic
\$1.00 plus SASE per service.
Will answer One Life Question
GYPSY STAR
Tarot Consultations

Services by
Mail or In Person

P.O. Box 6186
Baltimore, MD 21231

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

In FF23 I published a book review of a small pamphlet called A NEW IRON FIST, which made certain allegations about Ron Gould, co-publisher of A NEW IRON COLUMN. It has come to my attention that part of this publication was presented in a misleading fashion, and I have offered all concerned space to comment in these pages. Statements from Ron Gould and his co-publisher Gabriela Arensdorf, and Ron Tobin, publisher of THE THOUGHT, follow.

FACTSHEET FIVE readers should be aware that Ron Gould's reaction was to threaten me with legal action and physical harm. He has made similar threats to many other people he has dealt with. My personal opinion is that you should have nothing to do with Ron, his publication A NEW IRON COLUMN, or any organization which he is involved with. I feel that his history of violent outbursts makes him a dangerous person to have any interaction with. I will no longer be publicizing his products in these pages, nor will I continue to respond to his vicious personal attacks on myself.

Documentation of Mr. Gould's actions is available from me to anyone interested. It would be nice if you could send a buck or two to cover copying, but not required.

The following statements are printed exactly as I received them.

Statement from Ron Gould:

The book "A New Iron Fist" is a fabrication created by an right wing/libertarian-rich kid who calls himself a "King". This "King" Marc due to his dishonesty and demanding of favors to be paid to "Royalty" such as himself at the expense of those less fortunate, has found himself at great odds with us. Because of this he resorted to intentional lies to cover-up what he did, out of malice towards me. These lies attempted to make use of others as the authors of it, such as in the use of Gabi's initials. "King" Marc still insists he did not make the "ANIF". But on close examination one can see it was done on the same typewriter as his other publications, even the same size and outlay. Since this came out the "King" has threatened us with the police (he has done this to others) and claims to be a "Souverign State" if we press a civil suit for his printed trade libel against the IMWU and his slander against me. This suit would be necessary in light of the fact that if we made any attempt to settle this privately, he would squeal even more to police. We consider court not worth it. We consider him not worth it. His monarchism/statism proves him an enemy of anarchists everywhere, not just here. He has no support here. Never will.

Statement from Gabriela Arensdorf:

There are several details concerning the "New Iron Fist", which are not known to many. This paper was put out by "King" Marc Ely Chatelaine. He used my name (and initials in the intro) without my consent to mislead people into believing that I was one of the authors. Ely Chatelaine lied to me... denying his unquestionable role in ANIF (while swearing on his "integrity"?). If his new iron fist is so righteous why then his inexcusably sneaky and spineless behaviour? Regardless of what "arguments" persons could have against Ron Gould (Gunderloy et al) I fail to comprehend how they could knowingly support someone who has wrongly used my name to mislead. This entire incident has been extremely upsetting to me. My integrity does not allow me to operate in such a manner. Obviously Ely-Chatelaine's (lack thereof) does. You decide.

Statement from Ron Tobin:

For the record, let me say that I, Ronald Tobin, had nothing to do with the production of the malicious publication called A NEW IRON FIST. I further state that I had nothing to do with its contents, and I hereby call for Marc Ely-Chaitlin to step forward and accept full responsibility for his irrational act in publishing ANIF, and call for him to apologize to Ron Gould, Gabriela Arensdorf, the I.M.W.U., and the entire anarchist community.

PUBLISHER'S CHOICE



ANTI-ISOLATION 3/4 (\$5/4 issues from Xexoxial Endarchy, 1341 Williamson, Madison, WI 53703): I'm always looking for good jumping-off points and I think I've found one into the experimental art/lit world. Miekal And and Liz Was run XE, and their place must be a hotbed of collages and concrete poetry and strange noises and who knows what else. In A-I they do for this something like what I'm trying to do in FF: they present a series of short reviews and contact addresses. Understanding the avant-garde art world better than I do, they produce better reviews of it, and if you want to find out who is doing funny things with language and vision this is where to look. The reviews are packed in amongst examples of their subjects, from Ruth Schowalter's poetry, drained of all connection with language beyond bits of letters, to Zen Sutherland's drawings. Also includes interviews with some folks on the cutting edge and reviews of experimental music.

THE ART OF EATING #4 (\$14/yr from HCR 30, Box 3, Peacham, VT 05862): Well, I like to eat, so perhaps Edward Behr's quarterly newsletter had an unfair advantage in my reviewing. But I think not, for the simple truth is that he does a damned good job of reflecting on and encouraging good eating. #4 focuses on two foods, the extravagant brioche (with several variations) and the flavorful tomato, something those of you without home gardens are perhaps unlikely to find. He discusses the history and cultivation and preparation of each, provides recipes, and illustrates the whole with suggestively delicious watercolors (in black and white, alas). The recipes range from a simple clear tomato soup to a rich chocolate brioche tart. Even if one is not goaded into rushing to the kitchen and strapping on an apron, Edward's chatty stories of food make good reading, as well as good eating.

COLUMBIANA, Summer 1987 (\$2 from Chesaw Route, Box 83-F, Oroville, WA 98844): A thick (80 pages) journal for the Columbia River bioregion, put together by an awful lot of concerned people. There's very little fluff here, just a series of informative and thought-provoking articles. In the summer issue alone they cover water conservation and composting toilets, various ways to deal with the region's weeds, fire protection for your homestead, home schooling, massage, Urban/Rural feminism, and lots more. Particularly fun to read was Rene Featherstone's "Winter Camp in the Kettles", his account of wintering in a tipi with his dogs and his solitude. The whole thing is attractively desktop-published, and an extraordinary resource for the area, as well as an inspiration for other areas.

LIVE FROM THE STAGGER CAFE #5 (\$1 or The Usual from Luke McGuff, PO Box 3680, Minneapolis, MN 55403): That means you can get this for a letter or a contribution or a trade, but it's safest to send a buck the first time. Luke is a good guy to know, and he does in LFTSC what he calls "internetworking", hooking together some of the crazy folks out there with each other. He does it well. Particularly impressive in #5 is an article by Luna Ticks on the censorship of her art, which Luke seizes on to point out parallels between various oppressive acts that have happened elsewhere in the small press. Turn a few pages and you find a quick SF story by Rudy Rucker, who demolishes all of reality in half a page. Flip forward and you get to the 1987 Project Censored list of under-reported news stories. Prowl further and there is wonderfully evocative writing by Hakim Bey, encouragement to overthrow the system, with collaged illustrations by Freddie Baer. Put this all together with Joe Hoppe and Eric Mayer and other small press wackos and a great lively lettercol and you've got a winner. Luke comes out of sfandom and combines some of the genre's standards with the spontaneity it has mostly lost for a great read.

LOWLIFE #11 (\$2 from Glen Thrasher, 1095 Blue Ridge Ave. #2, Atlanta, GA 30306): Well, this is partly a pfanzine, with tape reviews and band interviews and a very full section of

zine reviews. But it bursts out of the mold in all directions, featuring sexually-explicit drawings, photocopy-modified art, short stories, bizarre cartoons, and much more. Many of the musicians tend towards the experimental, and are intermixed with experimental artists -- there's mucho discussion of folks like Leslie Singer and Psychodrama here. And for some reason a number of the bigwigs in the New York underground are snarking at one another here. Other art includes selections from Luna Ticks and some appealingly primitivist cows. The overall feeling one gets from reading LOWLIFE is that there really is a pattern and a philosophy to the marginals that cuts across geography and genre with a unifying influence.

THE MYSTERY & ADVENTURE SERIES REVIEW #19 (\$5 from Fred Woodworth, PO Box 3488, Tucson, AZ 85722): Those of you interested in the old series -- Tom Swift, Hardy Boys, Troy Nesbit, even the Lone Ranger -- are in for a treat in this one. #19 is a special reprint issue, with 100 pages of neatly typeset, lovingly-printed, well-written articles about these series, culled from back numbers of the REVIEW. Though many of the authors and titles here are completely unknown to the vast majority of people these days, there are enough dedicated fans to keep a love for the genre alive, and it spills over profusely in these pages. Long feature articles recount the plots of the various series, reminisce on the characters, or investigate the authors. It's all wonderfully printed and embellished with some of Fred's own anarchistic pot-shots now and then. Plus you can find people willing to sell you some of these books for a buck and up.

OFF OUR BACKS Vol. XVII #7 (\$1.25 from 2423 18th St. NW 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20009): Calling itself simply "A women's newsjournal", OOB presents a fantastic amount of news about and for women (although they don't actively discourage male readers). The women's movement (whatever it may be) is obviously high on their list of priorities, with space in the

July issue devoted to three conferences, one each for old lesbians, bisexuals, and radical thought for feminists. Regular columns round up news from around the world, provide current health updates, publish poetry and review music. A wonderfully caring tabloid, with much of interest to any decent human being.



Have friends

SCANDINAVIAN BEAUTIES WAIT FOR YOUR LETTERS! Write them! SIGNAL INTERNATIONAL, WORLD'S LARGEST FRIENDSHIP MAGAZINE: Signal 65=48 pages/1.000 ads/250 photo ads, news, articles...SIGNAL 64=32 pgs/860 penpals/250 photos...SIGNAL 63=64 pages/1400 ads/330 photos.SIGNAL 62=40 pgs/1200 ads/300 photos and SIGNAL 61=40 pgs/1.000 ads/230 photos - only USD 5 or 10 IRCs each ppd. YOUR PHOTOLISTING USD 10 or 20 International Reply Coupons (available at post offices). AGENTS - EARN 50 %! Info 2 IRCs. Rush today to:

SIGNAL INTERNATIONAL-FFP419
Box 150, FI-15111 LAHTI, FINLAND.



2600 Vol. 4 #8-9 (\$15/yr from PO Box 752, Middle Island, NY 11953): With the demise of TAP, this is the only magazine I know about dedicated to phone phreaking and computer hacking. They try to maintain an image a cut above of the mere thief of phone service, arguing that technical elegance, not dishonesty, is what makes a hacker. #8 features an extensive list of interesting numbers, including Cap Weinberger's phone and the access number for Aryan Nations. #9 details some of the problems with New York Telephone's latest scheme to let you dial the operator of your choice. Back issue volumes are available at \$25 per year.

AARDVARK FARMS

...is another comix and minicomics publisher that sent me a batch of stuff this summer. You can get any or all of the following from them at PO Box 785, Glenham, NY 12527.

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF MENTAL ILLNESS (25 cents and a stamp): This one is a mini-mini, half the size of a regular minicomic. All 16 pages are packed with humorously-illustrated symptoms, providing a handy checklist for the person who thinks he may be going around the bend.

THE LARRY THE LEPER SHOW Part 2 (25 cents & a stamp): An incomprehensibly silly mini about a floating leper who turns into a Mongolian. Short and pointless.

PUMZO GIMP (25 cents & a stamp): Another mini-mini, this one a series of doodles without a point or a plot. Call me old-fashioned, but I can do my own doodling, thank you just the same.

WONTON CARRUBA 3 (\$2 & age statement): Definitely the best value in this bunch, although I'm not sure why. This is a collection of words and images from the snotty side of the Aardvark crew, heavy on bodily functions and alienation and light on redeeming social importance.

ZOMBIE VOMIT #4 (\$1 & age statement): "Bad stuff for bad people". A mixture of smut, death, bondage and collage in minicomic format.

ACCESS TO ENERGY June 1987 (\$1.50 from Dr. Petr Beckmann, PO Box 2298, Boulder, CO 80306): A somewhat cranky newsletter of solidly-supported scientific and engineering argument from someone who happens to think the ecofreaks and other nuts are screwing up society. Beckmann explains such things as why the greenhouse effect is overrated as a clear and present danger, what's right about ice-minus bacteria, and what's safe about nuke power. You may not agree with his conclusions, but you have to admire his straightforward, documented reasoning.

THE ACTION LINKAGE NETWORKER #11-12 (\$30/yr from 5825 Telegraph Ave. #45, Oakland, CA 94609): AL is a networking group "concerned with the problems and possibilities of rapid technological, socioeconomic, and cultural change on a global scale, and the potential for local, win-win solutions to these global challenges." This newsletter is perhaps the most mundane of their activities, a way of coordinating a far-flung membership that is also linked by face to face meetings and a plenitude of apas. The ALN is sort of condensed cream off the top of this furious activity, replete with ideas on how to promote change and tales of the members' successes and lives.

THE ACTIVIST #18-19 (\$2 from 3833 1/2 Mahoning Ave., Youngstown, OH 44515): A combination of a pfnzine and an evangelical tabloid. Editor Chris Yambar has a fervent personal attitude towards spreading the faith, and takes time to critique both the mainline evangelists and the Catholic Church for what he sees as false doctrines. He also interviews

and reviews those involved with Christian music -- in fact, but for one slagging of a heavy metal band, all the reviews in #19 are of the Good People. Probably the biggest underground Christian pfnzine.

AFM (18 NW 100 St., Miami, FL 33150): Alterior Facial Mandala is a strange sort of operation. They give away their products, though I rather expect requests displaying your own creativity would be looked on more favorably than demanding letters. And the packages are customized, so I can't predict what you'll get, beyond art of some sort. My latest mailing turned up some original xeroxed works, a report of a performance art wedding, and a giant mandala suitable for wall display, which is just what I'm going to do with it.

A.I.C.F. REPORT July-Aug 1987 (\$20/yr from PO Box 525, Monterey, VA 24465): "Help us educate the American people about the illegal alien invasion", goes their subscription pitch. Published by the American Immigration Control Foundation, this is a well-produced tabloid that concentrates on legislative issues and news of border crime rates and unemployment. In the July-Aug issue they're particularly concerned with the new amnesty bill and attempts to extend its scope.

AL-FAJR JERUSALEM (\$50/yr from 16 Crowell St., Hempstead, NY 11550): The English edition of a Palestinian tabloid published in Jerusalem. It is of course vehemently anti-Israeli, as one might expect from a group who finds their territories being occupied by a foreign power. However, the contents are mainly news rather than editorializing. AL-FAJR presents a picture of brutal military occupation; the question remains of how much of this picture is true and how much is due to selective reporting.

ALTERNATIVE FICTION & POETRY #4 (\$3 from 7783 Kensington Ln., Hanover Park, IL 60103): You can tell they're the alternative -- their printer told them to clean up their act or go away. So they found another printer who could cope with raw ideas and occasional raw language. As far as I'm concerned, this issue is centered about Dean Tetrault's "This Kid's Mutt", a scary story of juvenile violence. (Dean, incidentally, is being harassed himself for his writing). But there's plenty more, including poetry from Jello Biafra and more of Miekal And's fiction. Definitely a cutting edge.

ALTERNATIVE INFO #9 (SASE from APRC, 151 1st Ave. Box A, New York, NY 10003): The Alternative Press and Radio Council is still trying to be a center for indie music activity in NY, but they're having a hard time keeping people interested. Still, this is worth picking up for Jack Rabad's evaluation of the NYC club scene (unless you saw it in Big Takeover) and the scene report.

AMERICAN FORUM #91-92 (\$3.95/7 issues from PO Box 261, Dept. E, Staten Island, NY 10302): A few pages every few weeks, AF apparently exists to give space to whatever catches editor Vince Palazzolo's eye. This has included ghost stories, libertarian propaganda, Church of the SubGenius stuff, kinky sex, and more. #92 includes an informative broadside about jury nullification and some other Constitutionalist stuff.

AMERICAN RATIONALIST July-Sept., 1987 (\$1 from PO Box 994, St. Louis, MO 63188): Boldly billing itself as "The Alternative to Religious Superstition", AR avoids concentrating solely on the contradictions of religious belief in order to endorse some ideas of their own, as well as those of Hume and other prominent freethinkers in the past. The

central article in the July issue is a tracing of ideas of Hell in various cultures, showing how bloodthirsty they generally are. There's a nice piece in the September issue cataloguing false quotations used by overzealous... Freethinkers.

THE AMERICAN SENTINEL #408 (\$5 from 7811 Montrose Rd., Potomac, MD 20854): The price of this 8-page newsletter just goes to show you that the right wing has money to spare. This is a sheet of outrageously conservative opinions, painting the Soviets as Evil Incarnate, referring to the SDI as the "Peace Shield", and going after Reagan for daring to negotiate on arms control instead of building up our arsenal immediately.

AMERICAN SOVIET CITIZEN EXCHANGE BULLETIN (SASE (?) from Ark Communications Institute, 250 Lafayette Cir. #301, Lafayette, CA 94549): This is a collection of items from a bunch of other media sources, with one thing in common: they all concern low-level exchanges of people between the two superpowers. Students, artists, journalists, athletes, and more -- they're all represented in this new wave of "citizen diplomacy".

AMERICAN WINDOW CLEANERS NEWSLETTER #3-5 (\$6 from PO Box 5653, Berkeley, CA 94705): Well, I thought this had to be a joke, but they sent three full issues along, and it really is a trade journal for window washers. There's a lot here I never dreamed of: techniques for getting down safely if your main line breaks 20 stories up; techniques and supplies for cleaning the stuff the rest of us leave on windows off; legislation that might make things more difficult; new products and lots more. And the cartoons are even funny. If there are any window washers in my audience, you ought to get this.

ANARCHAFEMINISM #2 (\$1.50 from Gabriela c/o IMWU, 12531-G Harbor Blvd. #188, Garden Grove, CA 92640): A journal devoted to the proposition that regaining fully human status for women requires destroying the state. The writing is variously horrifying (stories about the way women are actually treated), inspirational (Gabi's own editorial writings) and just plain informative (a long excerpt from Paula Caplin's THE MYTH OF WOMEN'S MASOCHISM, which I otherwise might never have encountered). It's all tied together by graphics and poetry, and the overall feeling is of people undertaking a struggle that they know will be difficult but feel will not be impossible.

THE ANCIENT ARTS, Summer (?) 1987 (\$3.50 from PO Box 1490, Idaho Springs, CO 80452): A newsletter for neo-pagans put out by a group called the Witching Well. There's a lot in this issue on the idea of religious freedom for everyone, even Satanists and (I think) Fundamentalists, plus a letter to Ron Reagan about kindergarten and how nice the world would be if we all had cookies and milk and a nap every afternoon. Also included is a recipe for beet root wine.

ANIMA #8 (\$4 from Spiral Publications, 8 King St., Glastonbury, BA6 9JY, ENGLAND): Thanks to postal delays this is the last pub I got to be plugging the Harmonic Convergence, in the form of a channelling promising all sorts of ambiguous good results. In fact, about half of this zine is channelled from various adepts, the other half being mainly devoted to astral and other forms of mental travel. #8 also contains a sort of taxonomy of different forms of magic which is rather useful in getting one's bearings.

THE ANIMALS' AGENDA July - Oct. 1987 (\$2 from PO Box 6809, Syracuse, NY 13217): A large slick-paper magazine for animal rights activists. They cover a lot of the usual subjects -- vivisection, factory farming, animal stress and so on -- but are especially useful because of their wide range of networking contacts. They provide plenty of book reviews, ads from other groups, and movement news in every issue, and write in a serious, non-alarmist tone of voice. They cast a wide net for interesting news -- the September issue discusses everything from the Gaia Hypothesis to the use of animals in AIDS research. In the October issue they talk to Jane Goodall and discuss the problem of roadkills -- how to stop them and what to do for injured animals.

ANOMALOUS THOUGHTS Vol. 1 #3 (2 stamps from Scott Parker, 1035 Iris, Beaumont, TX 77706): The newsletter of COUD-I, Collectors of Unusual Data - International, a group of Fortean. Discussion in #3 centers around various methods of cross-referencing Fortean data, the possibility of starting a tape-recorded round-robin, and various questions from oddball researchers.

ANOTHER STUPID ZINE (\$1 (?) from Ben Meyers, 412 W. Main, Bellevue, OH 44811): Annoying, but not quite to the point of being a parody. This issue Ben branches out to band interviews, sending the same half-dozen questions out to a bunch of bands and then printing response from 63 Eyes, Positive Force, Desecration and others. There are also surreal poems and stories, collaged backgrounds, and various reprints from the War Resisters League and similar groups.

ANTHRAX DIGEST #1 (SASE from 25 Perry Ave., Norwalk, CT 06851): A new pfanine put out by the folks behind the Anthrax club down in Norwalk. They're a haven for new music (upcoming shows: Sonic Youth, Ed Gein's Car, Membranes, AOD) and this reflects their tastes, with a 76% Uncertain tour report and an AOD interview. My only complaint is that they crammed the print together so that it's almost unreadable. But any club that's trying this hard to get their scene together should be encouraged.

ANTI-MATTER #5 (TRADE ONLY from Thale, PO Box 10413, Eugene, OR 97401): Smaller than a minicomic yet cloth-bound, this little item is quite an enigma. It looks a bit like mail art, yet if you read it you'll discover -- amidst the wavy lines and collages -- a polemic against pig slaughter and, by extension, factory farming in general. A guerilla message for animal rights.

ANTIMEDIA #24 (Donation from PO Box 1865, Olumpla, WA 98507-1865): Zeno has finally got a stable address so this is a good time to get in touch. AM is a zine of stories from the major media together with anarchist commentary and rants. Nicaragua is the big topic in #24. The radical fringe of the social justice movement.

ANTI-SOCIAL #4 (\$2.75 from 333 S. East Ave. #209, Oak Park, IL 60302): Worth getting just to see the full-sized version of "The Map is Not the Territory", a Korzybskian artistic romp that's one of the high points of the new SEMIOTEXT[E] USA [see BOOKS, below]. Formerly A-S COMICS, this zine also features everything from the long-running "Space Inquisition" space/soap opera to such socially-unredeemed fare as "Bull Dyke Biker Broads". Tom Roberts, who does most of the work, has a lovely detailed drawing style, and the strips here are a lot of fun.

APA-RENGA #12 (\$5 from Tundra Wind, PO Box 429, Monte Rio, CA 95462): That's to open an account with this publication from which production costs will be deducted. A-R is an exercise in reader-written poetry; it takes the form of round robins with set rules for imagery and style. Each member may



contribute the next verse to up to 8 rengas per issue. There are also general comments and musings in the back. Cooperative art that mostly works.

AQUA #2 (\$1 from PO Box 1251, Canal St. Stn., New York, NY 10013): A gay anarchist zine that's fighting the usual double battle of gay zines: once against injustice at large, and once against assholes in their own milieu. So in addition to essays on AIDS "testing", kid's rights, and gays in Yugoslavia, they treat the homophobia popular in some anarchist circles. But they also have fun, with stories and collages and poetry and drawings. A nice effort.

ARMAGEDDONQUEST #6 (\$1.50 from Starhead Comix, PO Box 30044, Seattle, WA 98103): Another installment in the story of the Antichrist, bringing this fantastically addictive comic to 260 pages so far. Ronald Russell Roach has all sorts of outrageous ideas and demons and psychic villains and a nearly sympathetic central character, all wrapped up in a stark Italian setting. The art is appropriately direct and powerful, and the comic doesn't shy away from sex or death. An adult epic fantasy.

ARTS & BUSINESS QUARTERLY Vol. 3 #3 (SASE (?) from Prince George's Arts Council, 6600 Kenilworth Ave., Riverdale, MD 20737): Undoubtedly this is the most mainstream arts publication I review. The PGAC is apparently a coalition of local artists and ensembles, and is devoted to raising and then distributing grant money. Besides plenty of grant news they also discuss some of the innovative artists in their area -- #3 talks about a man who produces unabridged novels on tape.

ASYLUM Vol. 3 #2 (\$10/yr from Greg Boyd, PO Box 8234, Mission Hills, CA 91346): A literary digest which spreads the boundaries of the genre a bit -- notable in #2 are the prose poetry of Thomas Wiloch and the sexily-abstract cartoon drawings by Walt Philips, as well as Eric Basso's interpretive essay on Jarry. The stories are for the most part airy and a bit confusing, sketches more than fully fleshed out, that leave the reader with an uneasy feeling of having missed something.

THE ATROCITY Vol. 11 #10 (50 cents & SASE from Hank Roll, 2419 Greensburg Pike, Pittsburgh, PA 15221): Newsletter of MENSA's Absurd Special Interest Group. Basically, a collection of the sort of disgusting humor that one finds floating around offices and schools in nth-generation photocopies -- though without the sexual and racial slurs so common in that stuff. What's left is a lot of sardonic humor and some absurd drawings, like the one depicting organizational structure via kissing posture. And remember, "The first step in tyranny is to silence those who would speak against it."

THE AV MAGAZINE Sept. 1987 (\$10/yr from AA-VS, 801 Old York Rd., Jenkintown, PA 19046-1685): The newsletter of the American Anti-Vivisection Society. On the one hand they've been around longer than almost any other animal rights organization. On the other, their focus is narrow, being concerned solely with medical research, not with animals as pets or food. Mostly they attack scientists on their own ground, providing arguments that animals can feel pain and that necessary research should be humane.

BABY, I'M YOUR SUICIDE MAN (50 cents from Starhead Comics, PO Box 30044, Seattle, WA 98103): A minicomic apparently produced on a Macintosh or similar computer. The drawings are of digitally distorted faces, and the captions are cryptic and plotless. Artistically interesting, but not a story.

BACK BRAIN RECLUSE #9 (\$3 from Chris Reed, Oakleigh, 16 Somersall Lane, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, ENGLAND): One of the better semi-pro SF zines around in any country. Chris concentrates on short and thought-provoking stories, ones that leave the reader wondering rather than giving him a neat futuristic package all wrapped up in fiber optics. The style is thus often sort of post-New Wave, complemented by fine illustrations from a stable of resident artists. #9 features a very nice interview with Bob Shaw and a strange horror story from Wayne Allen Sallee.

BACKSTREETS #20 (\$12/yr from PO Box 51225, Seattle, WA 98115): A "real" fanzine, devoted to none other than Bruce Springsteen, rock and roll God. At least, that's the impression one gets from their tediously complete coverage, right down to a listing of which show each track on the LIVE album comes from. Features notes about anyone who has ever sneezed in Bruce's presence and classifieds from folks trying to cash in on his success.

THE BAG! #20 (SASE from 28313 58th Ave., Paw Paw, MI 49079): The editor -- whoever he may be -- uses these four pages to rant and rave to his heart's content, as well as to present random newspaper clippings (a single word here and there, mostly). Topics include the overpushing of CDs, short stories, the music industry, and the worst review FACTSHEET FIVE has gotten in a long time.

BANANAFISH (\$1 from Seymour Glass, 668 Alcatraz, Oakland, CA 94609): Well, the only thing that makes a lot of sense here is the extensive section of reviews of obscure industrial and noise records. Other than that, there is boffo art, interviews with a band or two and some other strange people, and a lack of coherence about the whole project. Lots of stuff here, but it all seems to be jumbled together.

BANG! #16 (\$1 from Rocco Cipollone, 77 Newbern Ave., Medford, MA 02155): Rocco has apparently been spending some time lining up big names (in the pfanzine world, at least) to write for him -- there are stories here by Jim Testa, Al

Quint, and Shane Williams, among others. BANG! covers bands rather than shows or vinyl (though there are some short reviews) and this issue includes features on Redd Kross, Das Damen, Phantom Tollbooth, Scratch Acid, Kommunity FK, and others on the cutting edge of post-punk music. Well worth checking out and the best zine from Medford since I moved out of town.

BARBED WIRE CANOE #1-2 (55 cents & a stamp from Karl Anderson, 323 Locust, Winnetka, IL 60093-3610): A fun little rambling zine. So far it's been pretty much all Karl, but as he can write and draw and even think that's not much of a drawback. There's been a bit of silly humor, thoughts on major philosophical problems, anti-societal screeds, and the threat of PBM gaming. And the price is right.

BATTLE CRY March/Apr. 1987 (\$2.40/yr from PO Box 662, Chino, CA 91710): I'm sure this one won't trade, but it's cheap and hilarious. This is Jack Chick's tabloid -- you know, the guy behind Chick Publications, producers of the strangest Bible tracts ever invented. Full of startling new evidence on Satanic rock music, the evils of the Pope and the plots of the "Vatican Moscow Washington Alliance". Has to be seen to be believed.

BAYOU LA ROSE #25 (\$5/yr from PO Box 2576, San Diego, CA 92112): A tabloid paper devoted to social justice. The causes they follow most closely are native American ones, primarily in cases involving suppression by the federal government, whether they be forced haircutting in prison or forced relocation at Big Mountain. But they also follow the grape boycott, independent workers' unions, civil rights actions, and the like. A great source of information and good causes to support.

BEAUTIFUL WORLD #9 (\$1.50 CASH/MO [No trades] from D. David, PO Box 1675, Old Chelsea Stn., New York, NY 10011): A fan magazine dedicated to, of course, Devo. There are all sorts of tidbits of news on the Spud Boys, as well as appreciations of their music, drawings, and generally strange bits of cultural flotsam and jetsam. Also features some news on other strange musicians.

BENTWOOD Vol. 1 #3 (\$8/yr from PO Box 18852, Seattle, WA 98118): A relatively new pagan zine that seems to be concentrating on closeness to Mother Earth and her natural products. There are articles on how to grow a garden in harmony with the earth and on natural cures for cancer (though the latter is researched, it still doesn't strike me as plausible).

BIBLICAL ECONOMICS TODAY Vol. X #5 (On Request from PO Box 8000, Tyler, TX 75711): Gary North is a conservative, a free marketer, and a dedicated Christian. Somehow he combines all of these concerns into a bimonthly economic newsletter, focused on personal finances rather than the national level. #5 is the vastly interesting story of his business career with some bits of free advice for those just starting out.

BIG BAD MONKEY MAG #3 (Stamps (?) from Seb, 623 Chiquita, Santa Barbara, CA 93103): Sort of condensed cream of pfanzine graphics. BBMM is a single sheet zine with pix of skateboards and apes and bad logos and singers and little graphics and who knows what else.

BIG MIND #1 (\$2 from Steve Harris, 30 Foxley St., Toronto, ONT M6J 1R1, CANADA): A new art zine that takes an interesting tack for the first issue: all of the pieces presented are "firsts" of one sort or another. These are full-sized drawings or collages or photos; I liked Val Fraser's "First Time in the Barn", with its threatening cows glaring down, the best. Submissions are invited.

THE BILL NELSON NEWSLETTER #21 (\$1 from Bill Nelson, PO Box 41630, Tucson, AZ 85717): This one is for "pin collectors" -- not the things you hold dress patterns together with, but the promotional items produced for various events for people to wear. Apparently the hobby has an organized price guide and a growing market, fueled by manufacturer's giveaways and gift shops. Bill provides addresses to write for free pins and resells valuable sets he's collected.

BITCH #17 (\$1.75 from San Jose Face, 478 W. Hamilton Ave. #164, Campbell, CA 95008): BITCH has changed formats and is now a 64-page newsprint mag, much like this one you're holding. They're still "The Woman's Rock Mag With Bite", reviewing any music so long as it comes from a group with at least one female member. The biggest names in this issue are Alix Dobkin and Joan Jett, which will give those in the know some idea of their vast range. They also wander off into book and zine reviews (lots of them in #17), thoughts on obesity and fingernails, and any other topic that interests them. A voice bellowing in the wilderness.

BLACK DOG Vol. 1 #1-2 (44 cents in stamps from AC Samish, 1701 E. Martin Luther King Blvd., Austin, TX 78702): Austin is one of the little-known hotbeds of the underground. Now one of FF's friends, artist A.C. Samish, is doing something about that by publishing this bizarre artistic tabloid. It's weighted towards obscure, disgusting, and cryptic comix and drawings, but also includes short stories and shorter poetry. This is the raw edge that polite society tries to ignore, peeking out from under the rug. Check out the back cover of FF23 and you'll see a pale reflection of it.

BLACK STAR Vol. 5 #2 (\$5/yr from PO Box 3506, Tucson, AZ 85722): It seems to me that this anarchist tabloid is printing more historical material lately -- #2 features Makhno, Kropotkin and Luigi Fabbri. But there's also a rollicking column of anarchist news interpretations by Derik Jones and a sobering piece on dealing with the mainstream media by Fred Woodworth.

THE BLIND ARMADILLO #7 (\$1.75 from Natalie Kerr, PO Box 23385, Oklahoma City, OK 73123): A positive, energetic, and personal pfanine -- Natalie is not some distant Editor, but an ever-present friendly person. #7 features interviews with Suzanne Vega and Wednesday Week, the usual round of reviews, and an announcement of the second BA compilation tape, for which high-quality noise is being solicited. There's also a strange short story excerpt by Joe Beine called "Studs and Lace", about a chance meeting in a club.

BLOTTER #6-8 (\$2 from Roy Tompkins, PO Box 16022, Austin, TX 78761): A digest-sized comic that flirts with other art forms but stays close to the strange and bizarre drawings of ghoulish nightmares that Roy is best at. #6 contains a selection of oddball collages; #7 has drawings interspersed with a dreamlike story involving pigs, BB guns, sandy beaches, dancing planets, and a lot more strange things. #8 seems to be the food issue, with a cooking gal courtesy of

Luna Ticks, morbid things in your grape Kool-Aid, and Poppin' Fresh being roasted over a slow fire.

BLUE LIGHTS #3 (\$1.50 & 30-cent SASE from Christine Menefee, 600 Water St. SW #8-14, Washington, DC 20024): Remember when Star Trek was saved by a letter-writing campaign? Well, these folks are trying to do the same for the newer series Starman. Along with coordinating the pressure on the television folks, they also print tidbits of information about the show and the people involved. A fan magazine with a purpose.

BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE Vol. XL #10 (Donation from Loyola IHR, Box 12 Loyola University, New Orleans, LA 70118-6195): A monthly series of position papers on various pressing social problems from a generally progressive perspective. #10 sets out in simple fashion the ideas behind various philosophies of prison sentencing.

BLUE SUEDE NEWS Vol. 2 #4 (\$2 from PO Box 25, Duvall, WA 98019): A pfanine devoted to what is sometimes called "roots rock" -- the good old sounds from the fifties and sixties and their incarnations today. Editor Marc Bristol concentrates on the active local club scene, and Mick Barstool's "On the Town" column in #4 gives a good idea just how active it is.

THE BOB #31 (\$2 from 151 First Ave. #F, New York, NY 10003): 72 pages of tabloid new music coverage -- one of those zines that makes me wonder how anyone can churn out so much on a single subject. There must be hundreds of record reviews in this, as well as stories on the Mekons, Replacements, Silos, Aussie Rock, Yo La Tengo and much more. Also includes a double-flexi disc, featuring a Dream Syndicate cover of "Cinammon Girl" and Opal's Kendra Smith with a haunting German version of a Lou Reed number.

BOLD PRINT Fat Elvis Issue (\$1 (?) from Kyle Hogg, 2008 Stuart Ave., Bsm., Richmond, VA 23220): Mail art, poetry, short stories, rants, an interview with the band Fat Elvis, a history of progressive rock (from one idiosyncratic viewpoint) and more are all stuffed into these pages. Kyle puts together an entertaining bunch of writers, many of them, like Larry Oberc and Sharon Kelliher, seemingly on the verge of screaming fits of insanity. Poetry near the edge.

BOWLING BALLS FROM TERRASSA (\$2 from Trepidacion, PO Box 48, 08220 Terrassa, SPAIN): That price includes air mail postage for this pfanine, a pretty good deal. Though they're from Spain, these guys get around; in this issue they interview bands from Iceland, Brazil and England and present hundreds of contact addresses for the South American scene. Firmly in the punk camp, the nice graphics include Ivor the Anarchist and Baboon Dooley comic strips. A nice batch of international news.

BRAIN DEAD Vol. 1 #4 (\$1.50 from 19 Shadylawn Dr., Churchville, PA 18966): A zine of comics, music, and other experimental art. One of the highlights here is Bryan Battery's "Evangelist of the Living Dead", in which Oral Roberts gets what's coming to him. Another is the Bergin strip "The Bricklayer" -- well drawn, innovative, screwy. Carol Schutzbank contributes reviews of overlooked music and the editors throw in some live reviews -- notably of a Butthole Surfers show that sounds like a real sensory overload.

BRAVEAR Vol. 3 #6 (\$3 from PO Box 3877, Berkeley, CA 94703): A big slick-paper pfanine that takes time out to address the moral climate of America in #7 with stories about censorship, the PMRC, the Jello Biafra trial, and so on. Of course they also talk to some big names in music -- Ian McKaye and Foetus, for example -- and some lesser-known but upcoming bands. Throw in a whole mess of music reviews, carefully selected live show reviews, and very clever graphics and you have a winner. Slick and large enough to be mistaken for NEWSWEEK, but definitely more fun to read.

BREITENBUSH NEWSLETTER Fall 1987 (\$5-10/yr from PO Box 578, Detroit, OR 97342): The Breitenbush community seems to be going through the establishment of a new equilibrium with the departure of a bunch of members and a search for new ones. There are still plenty of folks left in this intentional community, though, recycling and hosting workshops and working to save the old-growth forest. A dedicated bunch who seem just a bit uncertain about what to do next. If you're in the area, drop them a line to find out about upcoming seminars and workshops by various prominent New Agers.

BROUHAHA #5 (Trade or contribution from PO Box 152, Honolulu, HI 96810): An outgrowth of the late great NOVUS,



THE TOMBOYS

MAD BALL

And You're Invited

THROW A

6 song
TAPE
PLUS!!

OFFICIAL
PROGRAM





CHECK or MONEY ORDER

to SALLY HORTON

6551 Kester, Suite #7

Van Nuys, CA 91411

\$6.00 each

this is sort of a cross between a pfanzine and an apa. People contribute 8 1/2 x 11 camera-ready copy and then it's all stuck together and sent out every once in a while. With roots in the music scene, many of the contributors review shows and records; others, however, contribute collages, drawings, sexually offensive material, and their grocery lists. "We want creative people to be drawn to BROUHAHA like flies to...never mind."

B-SIDE Aug./Sept. 1987 (\$1.50 from PO Box 1387, Fort Washington, PA 19034): A tabloid that concentrates on feature stories and interviews with bands that have established followings while still not being mainstream darlings. The August ish includes coverage of DOA, Anthrax, The Mission, The Meatpuppets and a dozen more bands, with a few relative unknowns (She-Males, Mighty Lemon Drops) relegated to the back pages along with the record reviews. The photos and layout and typesetting are very pro, and B-SIDE has a nice look and feel to it despite the nasty characters inhabiting some of its pages.

THE B-SIDE REPORT #7 (\$1 from David Verzal, 2512 E. 16th Ave., Hibbing, MN 55746): Yes, David actually does review the B-sides of new releases, including the latest from Springsteen and U2. He also provides a forum for record and tape collectors and traders to advertise their wares, and reviews some alternative music.

BUF-O July/Aug.- Sept./Oct. 1987 (TRADE ONLY from Klaus D. Haisch, 1729 E. Tabor St., Indianapolis, IN 46203): Stream-of-consciousness popular culture. Klaus jumps from theme to theme as it suits him, but you can expect comix, Vanna White, sleazy SF, television, and monster movies in a typical issue. Everything is properly irreverent and amusing. Most of the September ish is devoted to an appreciation of TWILIGHT ZONE.

BULL SHIT MONTHLY #15 (50 cents from 89-58 215 Pl., Queens Village, NY 11427): Better abbreviate that on the envelope since the Post Office gets huffy about obscene mail sometimes. This is a handwritten pfanzine that takes as its subject the hardcore scene in New York. There are a few things wrong here -- like horribly illegible photos -- but on the whole it's not a bad example of the genre. Prong and Reagan Youth are two of the bands covered, and there's a free Misfits poster included with the issue.

BUTT RAG Vol. 1 #2 (\$1.50 from 1927 N. Sheffield Ave., Chicago, IL 60614): One of the new breed of pfanzines that wants to tell it like it is -- that is, to reveal all the asshole things being said and all the stupid records being cut for what they are. In practice, this makes reading the record reviews a lot of fun, and it's easy to tell what the reviewers don't like, but sometimes hard to tell why, when the insults get ahead of the information. The other component here is interviews, including Urge Overkill, Phantom Tollbooth, and God's Acre in #2.

BUZZ #21-23 (\$4/4 issues from PO Box 3111, Albany, NY 12203): Yes, there is a music scene around here, and BUZZ is the place to find out about it. In addition to printing lots of local gossip and the occasional review of records or shows passing through town, the folks behind this one also run a cable TV show (and are after tapes to show). #22 contains about the only coverage of the New Music Seminar that I've seen; it's nice to see what some of the folks in the industry look like for a change.

BVI-PACIFICA Vol. III #1 (\$2.50 from Dragwyla, PO Box 45792, Seattle, WA 98145-0792): Yael Dragwyla has relocated, but that hasn't stopped her from putting out the best of the BVI products. This issue starts out with a longish essay by the editrix herself on various outre events occurring around her lately, from a SubGenius Revulval to a Libertarian Party convention to a shindig on the astral plane. Willie Smith contributes a nutball little story and Roanne Old writes in with advice on raising vegetables in nuclear-nonfree zones.

BVI-WEST #15 (900 Lincoln #714, Denver, CO 80203): The cover price is \$5.87, but I wouldn't send more than a couple of stamps for this single-sheeter, if that. Features a satirical redneck rant and allegedly amusing invented news about famous people ("Mother Theresa Joins Rock & Roll Band", that sort of thing).

CAAC NEWS Summer 1987 (Donation from PO Box 7454, Olympia, WA 98507): The newsletter of the Central American Action Committee. They have plenty to talk about in this issue, from

Contragate to the death of Ben Linder. They also report on present and future projects planned in Central America, and provide contact addresses for a bunch of organizations working in the area.

CALIFORNIA UFO Vol. 2 #3 (\$3 from 1800 S. Robertson Blvd. #355, Los Angeles, CA 90035): It's big, it's slick, and it's full of crap (they even list an organization called Christian Research of Aerial Phenomena in their contacts section). The lead story, for example, is "Pleiadian Ancestors From Mars? A new slant on the 'ET Heritage' theory" and that about sums it up. Crystal skulls, contactees, channeling, hollow earth, and so on. Good for a few laughs.

CAMPUS REVIEW Vol. 3 #5-6 (\$10/yr from PO Box 5155, Coralville, IA 52241): One of the best of the new breed of college newspapers -- that is, conservative tabloids. Not surprisingly, they're much concerned with topics like AIDS, SDI, and the 1988 elections, but with points of view that one seldom finds elsewhere in the small press. And their jokes and cartoons are funnier than the left's too. That's our problem: a humor gap! #6 features a full-page poster of Oliver North, American Hero and a copy of Ollie's slide show.

CAPITAL REPORT Aug. 1987 (On Request from Dr. Tim LaHaye, PO box 2700, Washington, DC 20013-2700): Actually, LaHaye is fronting for some group called "Family Life Seminars" and they want \$25 a year, but I sure didn't pay for this Christian report on national politics. He reveals such facts as "Borks' Supreme Court appointment is in the hands of God -- and three or four men" and that the Democrats will lose the '88 election because they're tools of the AIDS/gay lobby. Homophobic and decidedly conservative stuff.

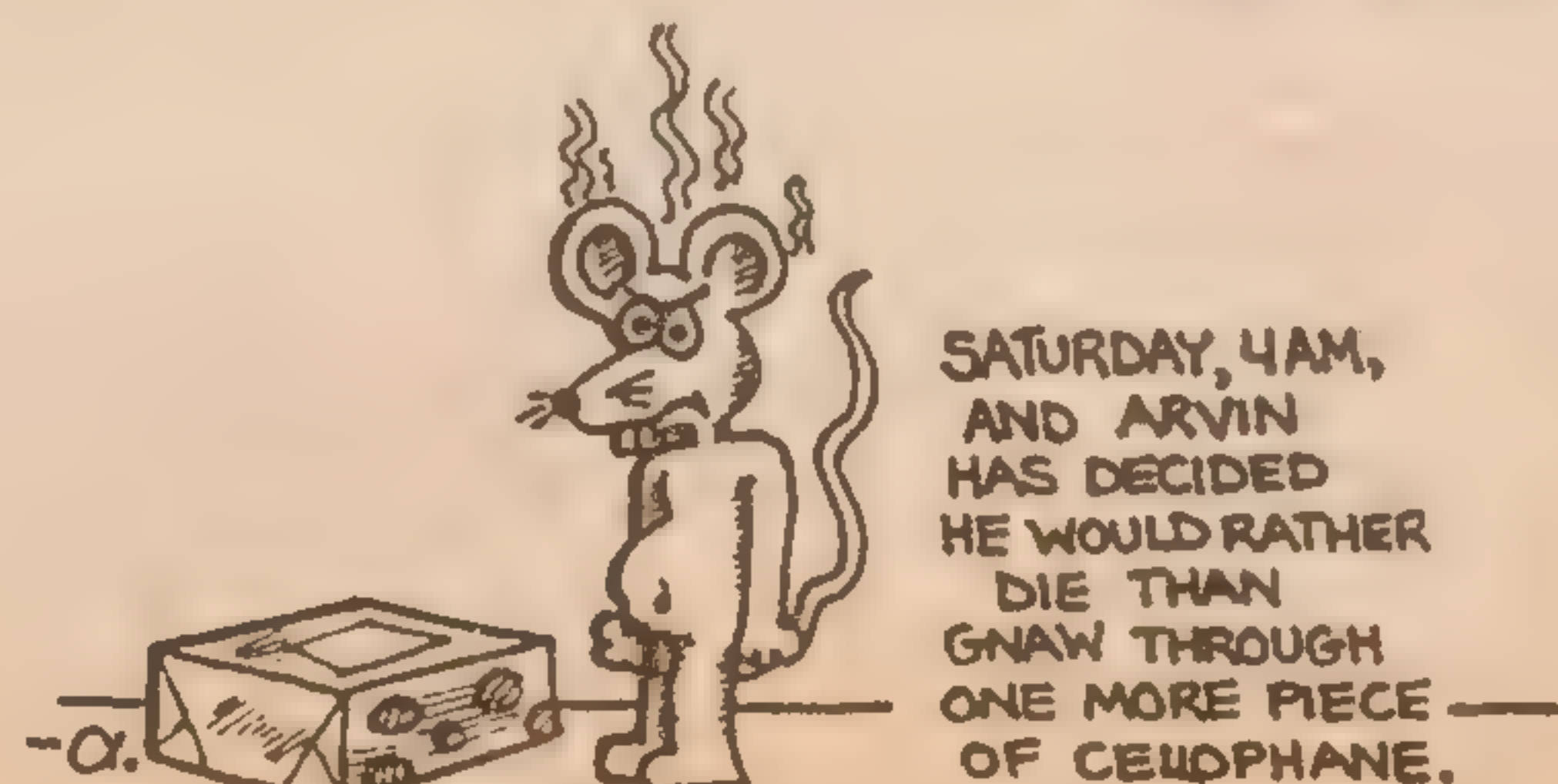
THE CARBON DATING SERVICE Vol. I #2-3 (SASE (?) from Alan Pruzan, 203 Belmont E #207, Seattle, WA 98102-5646): A folded 11x17 broadside of, well, writing and stuff. In these two issues topics include the manufacture of M&Ms, piezoluminescence from wintergreen Lifesavers, cornea transplants, speed limit signs, homonym definitions, and other random things, together with strange pictures and backgrounds.

CARIBBEAN NEWSLETTER Vol. 7 #7-8 (\$1 from FFJ, PO Box 20392, Cathedral Finance Stn., New York, NY 10025): Published by Friends For Jamaica, this is a leftist source for news on the entire Caribbean region. #7 concentrates on Jamaica for a change (though Grenada and other places are still here) with stories on the economy and the upcoming elections. #8 reports on the recent summit meeting of Caribbean heads of state.

THE CBA UNITY PROJECT BULLETIN Aug. 1987 (On Request from Citizen's Bar Association, PO Box 935, Medford, OR 97501): An ambitious mailing from a Constitutionalist (or, as they prefer, Patriot) group that wants to pull the scattered movement together. They suggest common action by all individuals concerned about saving the constitution, and propose to form a network of liaisons in every county to do this on a grass-roots level. All they want is \$10 a month from each liaison for copies of the BULLETIN...and there are about 3100 counties in the country. That's only a third of a megabuck per year for Patriot purposes.

CELTIC FRINGE Vol. II #2 (\$7.50/3 issues from 6146 W. Giddings St., Chicago, IL 60630): A newsletter devoted to the Celtic culture that extends from Brittany to Ireland to Scotland. Editor June Sawyers publishes ancient legends and lore, modern cultural news, and interviews with prominent Celts. In #2, a series on the Battle of the Trees begins.

CENSORSHIP NEWS #26 (\$25/yr from NCAC, 132 W. 43rd St., New York, NY 10036): That sum includes a year's membership in the National Coalition Against Censorship, a group of people who feel pretty strongly about the First Amendment. CN reports on the continuing attacks against school libraries, book stores, video stores, cable television, teachers, and others who espouse the freedom to disseminate unpopular ideas. It's often pretty scary stuff, although the Religious Right



are by no means winning all the cases.

CERTAIN GESTURES #5-6 (60p from David Tiffen, 55 Perowne Rd., Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 3JR, ENGLAND): A small zine of art and stuff, that orbits somewhere around the same place as the elusive SMILE -- #6 has a piece on the ontology of Karen Eliot. Also collages, art, clippings and, yes, gestures. Some of the content borders on being racy, but it's not as close as the London tabloids.

CHICKEN SLAX (\$2 from Mary Fleener, 309 Oceanview, Encinitas, CA 92024): A nice blending of several of today's media: the zine and the rock song. Each page or two here is from a different underground artist, illustrating the lyrics to some song or other, mainly outside the pale. So combinations include Al Greenier doing "I Had Too Much to Dream Last Night" by the Electric Prunes and Jeff Gaither with "TV OD" by I forget who. It works out surprisingly well. Orders include a free copy of the New Wave mini-coloring book COLOR MY TOTEM.

CIRCULAR 12-14 (SASE from PO Box 6013, East Lansing, MI 48823): Carol Schneck and Charlie Nash collaborate on this collection of words and images. CIRCULAR is a mix of direct writing from life and collages, often with no apparent connections between them. In #13 there are a batch of animal pictures and a story about a home childbirth, for example. #15 includes a short Jerry Cornelius vignette which seems to me true to his eternal spirit.

CIVITAS Vol. II #3 (Donation from PO Box 26, Swain, NY 14884): Newsletter of an extremely radical anti-vivisection group. They argue not primarily on the basis of animal rights, but rather that animal experimentation has no positive impact on human health. Thus one gets not only news of efforts on behalf of animals but also news indicting the medical establishment on other grounds -- for example, that AIDS research is being systematically misdirected in order that researchers may make a profit on it.

CLAUQUE #3 (40 cents & a stamp from Chris Beneke, 627 Connecticut, Lawrence, KS 66044): A mini-zine of storylets, and drawings. By "storylets" I mean the sort of brief, one- or two-paragraph things that are becoming popular in the underground: brief invocations of a moment, a scene or an emotion out of life. Sunny Jim writes most of the ones here, and he's got an interesting rhythm of description. The drawings range from junior-high-primitive to angrily blotted.

COALITION TO PROTECT ANIMALS IN PARKS & REFUGES (SASE (?) from PO Box 26, Swain, NY 14884): This newsletter is put out by a loose coalition formed "to make more people aware that their parks and National Wildlife Refuges are being turned into hunting preserves". Most of it is therefore downer news about the slaughter of animals, but there are some spots they find hopeful, such as a bill before the Congress promising to prohibit hunting on federal wildlife preserves.

THE COLLECTIVE NETWORKER NEWSLETTER #111-113 (\$1 from PO Box 912, San Francisco, CA 94101): A collectively-produced newsletter for those trying to develop new ways of living and working together. Every issue has an extensive "Grapevine Calendar" of Bay Area events and ads from collectives looking for new members. #111 features a report from the Assembly of the Federation of Egalitarian Communities and a summer vacation report from someone who went to Russia. #113 has some useful advice in the form of a clever system for allocating collective phone bills.

COLTSFOOT Vol. VIII #4 (\$10/yr from James Troy, Route 1, Box 313A, Shipman, VA 22971): A journal for the forager, herbalist, or other appreciator of wild plants. #4 is a fairly typical issue, with an article on the medicinal properties of willow bark, a story about someone's summer camp experience with herbal remedies for the kids, and recipes using lamb's-quarter and wild mint.

THE COMEDY MAGAZINE #2 (90 p. from PO Box 656, London NW3 6AQ, ENGLAND): A new digest of appreciation of classic comedies. Of course, as most of these classics are British, American readers may miss a lot (as I no doubt did). But you can tell editor Mat Coward loves laughing, and he wants to pass on the feelings. In addition to interviews with comedy greats (Ned Sherrin in #2), there are also a batch of reviews, plus articles on things like religious comedy and the new look of greeting cards.

COMIC BUYERS GUIDE #719 (\$1.50 from 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990): If you're a comics collector and you don't

know about this one then you're not a comics collector. A fat two-section tabloid, CBG is stuffed full of news about new titles, changes in old titles, and the business of the comics industry. It even features preview reduced stories from new titles. And of course there are zillions of ads from people buying and selling comic books. Indispensable in its field.

COMPOST NEWSLETTER Sept.-Oct. 1987 (\$10/12 issues from Valerie Walker (note "For CNL" on checks), 729-5th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118): I get the impression that this is sort of a pagan apa, with different people being responsible for different pages. How else to explain the straightfaced account of the Harmonic Convergence followed closely by satirical cartoons on the subject. There are also thoughts on communicating with the dead and pictures of Sumo wrestlers, and other amusing things.

CONFLICT 45 (\$1.75 from Gerard Cosloy, PO Box 264, New York, NY 10009): So you want to know all about new music? Well, go look in OPTION or someplace -- but if you want to know about the morons, dips, and idiots behind it, CONFLICT is a good place to start. Gerard doesn't pull any punches in slagging bands, clubs, producers, and anyone dumb enough to write him a letter. Reading CONFLICT is like eating a ground glass sandwich.

THE CONNECTION #145-146 (\$2 from Erwin S. Strauss, 4271 Duke St. #D-10, Alexandria, VA 22304): This long-lived libertarian apa is on a downslide again, with the pagecount dropping into the sixties, but there's still hope -- and that 60+ pages contains an awful lot of small-print argumentation from new and old members. Current topics include South Africa, quantum physics, Fundamentalist objections to D&D, socialism and all sorts of other apa flotsam.

CONNEXIONS Vol. II #1 (\$2.50 from 427 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ONT M5S 1X7, CANADA): The quarterly digest put out by the people behind the CONNEXIONS DIRECTORY (see BOOKS section below). This is basically a networking tool for Canadians concerned with social issues. They reprint a selection of articles from all over, provide a forum for news of various actions, and review dozens of new publications. Grassroots and social justice are the common parameters here, and issues range from nuke power to gay rights to women's issues. A few U.S. publications are included.

CONSUMER JUNK #4 (\$2 (?) from Dick Hunton, 8 Central Ave., Ivanhoe 3079, Melbourne, AUSTRALIA): That's a guess at the price; maybe you should drop Dick a line first. This is a great pfanzine published down under, loaded with contact addresses and info for other zines and bands on the Aussie scene. Dick puts pages of interesting society stuff (the world's intelligence agencies, sex on the Christian right) between interviews with a batch of bands and scads of reviews. Interviews include Aussie bands like God and Toxic Avengers as well as mail ones with folks in the U.S., South Africa, and Scotland.

CONTRAGATE ALERT #4 (\$20/yr from The Christic Institute, 1324 North Capitol St. NW, Washington, DC 20002): Yes, the folks behind the "secret team" affidavit [see FF23 BOOKS] are publishing this monthly journal of stuff about the crooks in our government. #4 contains a look at the quickly-forgotten congressional hearings, details of the case for impeachment, and updates on their lawsuit against most of Raygun's Heroes. Call 202-667-2634 for a weekly update on this lawsuit.

CONVERGING PATHS Vol. 2 #1 (\$4 from PO Box 63, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572): A pagan journal that tries to publish well-researched articles, and often succeeds. In #1, Scarecrow discusses the path of shamanism at length, and points out the (often ignored) fact that many pagans who call themselves shamans are just shams. There's also a page about raising children, an article on the "Physics of Magic" (which I found dubious, but it's a step in the right direction) and a calendar of events. A bit pricey but high quality.

THE COSMIC RAY Vol. 1 #2 (\$7.50/yr from Krudzna, Inc., PO Box 4232, New Orleans, LA 70178): Even though Also Aswell has gotten his act together enough to publish regularly, I wouldn't recommend sending anything other than cash. This is the journal of the Cosmic Ray Deflection Society of North America, a group dedicated to strange and wonderful modern folk art as a means of repelling those nasty rays once the ozone layer goes down. The stranger-looking your hat, the better.

COUNTERATTACK Vol. 1 #1 (\$2 from Refuse & Resist!, 305 Madison Ave. #1166, New York, NY 10165): A new newsletter for social justice. R&R is a campaign being spearheaded by a bunch of artists and intellectuals to oppose the conservative bent of the country today. Planned projects include solidarity with AIDS patients and illegal aliens, and a few media circuses to draw attention. Actually, a serious organization like this could do quite a bit of good, so I'll be keeping an eye out to see how they develop.

COUNTER CULTURE #2 (\$1 (?) from Sean Wolf Hill, 1920 Emerson St., Dayton, OH 45406): "The Journal of Diner Appreciation". I guess the old diners are sort of an American archetype, judging from the fantastic reception this zine has gotten. People from all over are writing in to rhapsodize about their own fave diners or to argue what constitutes "Dinertude". Features pictures, food reviews, and just plain silliness, as well as notes on diners in print elsewhere.

COUNTRY CHART ANALYST Vol. I #7 (\$50/yr from 7 Music Circle North, Nashville, TN 37203): Well, if you're absolutely burning to write country songs and have money to burn, this 16-page newsletter might teach you something -- but somehow I doubt it. Lists of current C&W hitmakers alternate pages with folksy anecdotes on how they do it.

COVENANT RENEWAL Vol. 1 #7-9 (On request from Institute for Christian Economics, PO Box 8000, Tyler, TX 75711): A newsletter of theology written in down-to-earth, simple language. #7 discusses the features of the Christian covenant with God, arguing that bad things in life are just an opportunity to renew this covenant. #8 looks at some of the things Jehovah had to say about blood in the pages of Leviticus.

CRAFTS & CURIOS Aug.-Nov. 1987 (SASE (?) from PO Box 6186, Baltimore, MD 21231): A couple of sheets put out by the folks who used to publish MYSTIC PRESS. It's a collection of classified ads (available at 10 cents a word) and as such, reads like a pagan/magick Big Mail. Get your spells performed and buy your magickal needs and publications here.

CRC NEWSLETTER Jan.-July 1987 (\$5 from GHJ Jazz Foundation, 3008 Wadsworth Mill Place, Decatur, GA 30032): No, computer jocks, that doesn't stand for Cyclic Redundancy Check -- this is from the Collector's Record Club. They're dedicated to preserving old jazz on new records, and the \$5 is a membership fee to enable you to receive their newsletters. Buy at least one rare re-issue a year for \$6 and you stay on the list.

THE CREATIVE URGE AUG. 1987 (\$2.95 from M. Talarico, Drawer 417, Oceanside, CA 92054): With my printsize maybe I shouldn't complain, but what stands out here (besides the bevy of new writers trying to break into the mainstream) is the compressed print, a 10-pitch font crammed into 12-pitch and thus nearly illegible. Other than budding romance stories and little mysteries and poetry, there are also a couple of advice columns on how to write.

CRITIQUE #26 (\$15/yr from PO Box 11368, Santa Rosa, CA 95406): Editor Bob Banner is producing single issues again, in a new slick typeset format that is lovely to read. But the upgrade in looks hasn't affected the contents of this "Journal of Conspiracies and Metaphysics"; they're still the same freewheeling collection as ever. A random sampling from #26: AIDS demography, UFO abductions, machines to help you meditate, the Afghani Mujahideen, liberal myths, and Space Shuttle sabotage. The articles range from implausible to solid. If you're not getting CRITIQUE you're missing part of the underground of American thought.

CRITTERS #15 (\$2.75 from Fantagraphics Books, 4359 Cornell Rd., Agoura, CA 91301): A comic with a slick color cover and nice b&w insides. As the name implies, it's devoted to funny animal comics, with the hit of this issue undoubtedly being J.P. Morgan's "Fission Chicken", a superbird who doesn't go for all that sweetness-and-light crap. Timothy Fuller's "Blue Beagle" is another excellent parody of the superhero genre. A nice production.

THE CRUCIBLE Vol. 24 #1-2 (\$10/6 issues from Garry De Young, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252): A zine of atheism, politics, and crankiness from FF's own resident curmudgeon. It's basically the same mix as you'll find in Garry's columns here: lawsuits, conservatism and a concern that people be treated fairly, even though in this world it seems that they never will. #2 contains the latest filing in one of Garry's

efforts to get full protection under the 14th Amendment, including top-notch legal services provided by the court.

CRUX #3 (\$4 from Thomas R. Adams, PO Box 1094, Paris, TX 75460): A zine of ufology that pulls together a lot of information in one place. #3 is devoted to happenings in the state of New Mexico, from 1880 to 1984, and including everything from sightings to landings (allegedly as revealed by some of the MJ-12 documents). Though the author displays a healthy skepticism, it would have been helpful to have sources cited. Still, this compendium represents a lot of work, and makes NM out to be a strange place indeed.

CULT COMIX #5 (\$1 from Mumbles Publications, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): Well, the most reasonable part of this underground digest is the bacover of the lady with snakes, labelled "ecstasy". Inside, things are considerably odder, with drawings from Blaster Al Ackerman and our own Remy (see bacover of FF22), a rundown on televangelist news, and a page of weaponry sketches. Comics that no one else would bother to publish.

CUT ZINE #3 (\$1.50 from Steve Erickson, 11 Julian St., Norwich, CT 06360): I liked this pfanzine even though the post orifice took a huge bite out of my copy. Left (at least in part) were interviews with the cheerful fellows at Happy Flowers and a thoughtful one from the Angry Samoans; the best 100 records of the decade so far, and a lot of hopeful stuff about the ten-year cycle starting over and a bunch of great new punk records due soon. A hopeful message.

DAGGER #3 (3 stamps from Tim Hinely, 201 Frances Ave., Linwood, NJ 08221): A helluva lot of pfanzine for the price -- this ish is like 50 pages digest-sized. There's a ton of live reviews anchoring everything (and Tim slugs a larger than average number of bands, for you CONFLICT fans) plus some fanzine reviews and a few interviews, notably SCRAM and FUZZBOX. No frills, no photos, just a pile of writing about new music.

DAILY IMPULSE Vol. 3 #3 (\$5/yr from PO Box 90312, San Diego, CA 92109): A bi-monthly newsletter that seeks to combine anarchy and punk, thus straddling the boundaries of two publishing traditions. So it is that they can reprint Emma Goldman in the same issue with record reviews, or discuss REAL WAR STORIES across the pages from a survey about scene harassment. Small but thoughtful and well-produced.

DAMP #2 (\$2.50 from PO Box 14, S. Willington, CT 06265): Yeah, so editor Kevin "Bag" Kraynick is a bit grumpy but that doesn't mean we should all compare this to CONFLICT. For one thing, DAMP is 48 oages of fine print and includes an incredible number of record reviews. For another, one of the interviewees is FORCED EXPOSURE's Byron Coley (Other feature players include Zoogz Rift, Big Dipper, and Expando Brain). Most of this won't mean a lot to you unless you're at least a bit inside the new music cliques, but it's well-written and not afraid to sneer at lousy music.

DANGEROUS RHYTHMS #8 (99 cents from Gene Temesy, 439 Rivercrest Dr., Piscataway, NJ 08854): A pfanzine that hangs out on the dangerous edge, with live reviews of such motley performers as Lydia Lunch and Divine, as well as Elvis clones and somebody who plays an electric crutch. Despite this aura of sleaze, the zine itself is pretty good, with a pile of very

SHEET LIGHTNING by Denise Dumars
The acclaimed poetry chapbook by
Ms. Dumars is now only \$ 4.00.

THUMBSCREW # 3
Difficult to describe. A great
Christmas gift only \$ 2.00 per.

Our Catalogue is now available
for a self-stamped envelope.

Do not delay.

TERATA PUBLICATIONS
P.O. Box 810, Hawthorne, CA 90251



nice record reviews interspersed with photos leading the whole thing off. It's just that the editor's tastes are a bit strange. (I should talk?)

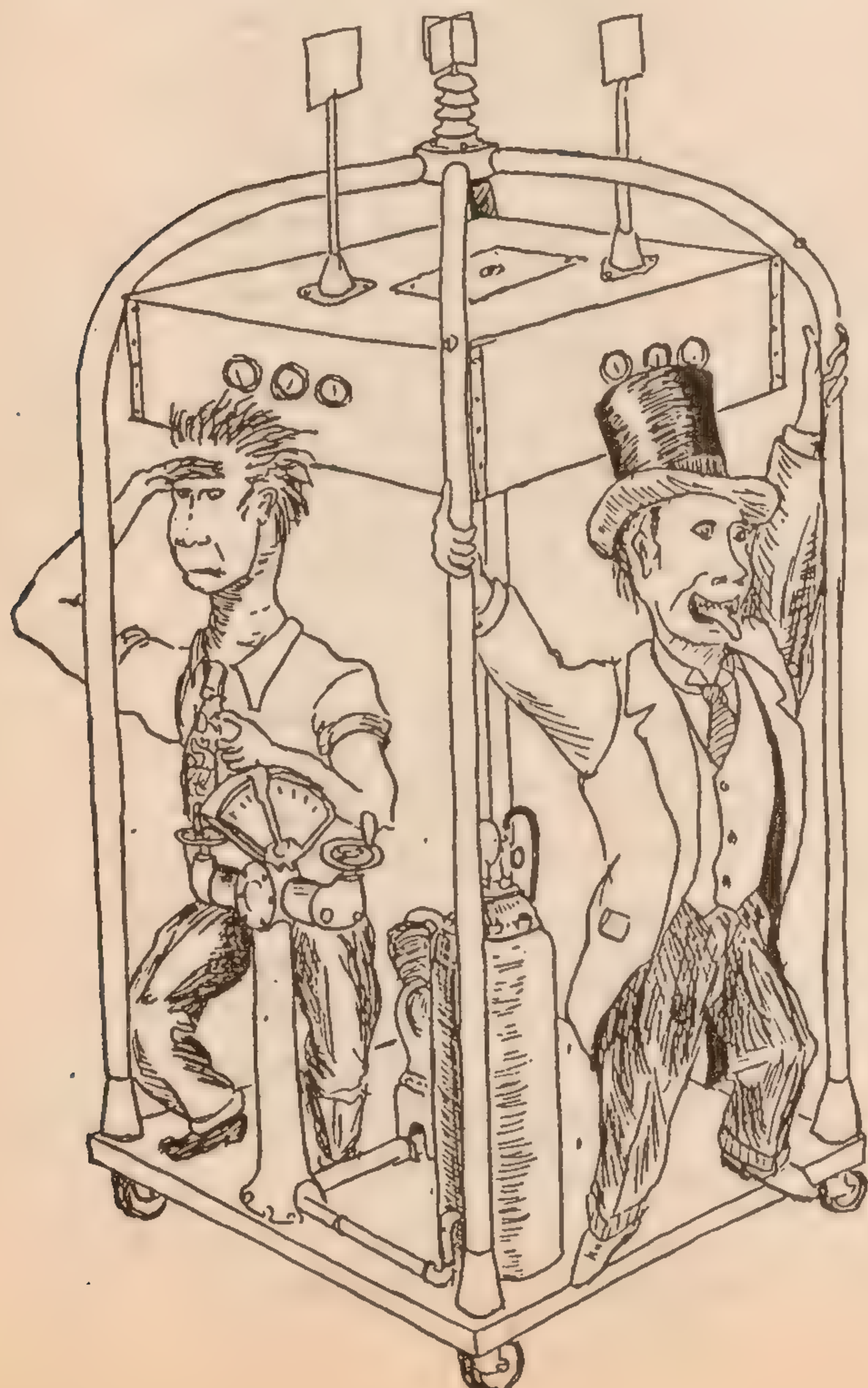
DANGEROUS TIMES #11 (25 cents & a stamp from Feed Your Head, 32 Chestnut Hill, Greenfield, MA 01301): #11 was a special issue promoting the Harmonic Convergence floperoo. More generally DT reprints bits from the opposition to the System, whether this be political or otherwise.

DARK STARR #5 (\$4 from Marjorie Talarico, Drawer 817, Oceanside, CA 92054): A mammoth (100+ pages) compendium of fantasy, horror and mystery stories, with an emphasis on strange and unlikely deaths and crimes. There are some moderately well-known names here (Sallee and Taliaferro, for example) as well as a bunch of promising newcomers. Short poetry is used to fill out the pages and horrific illustrations make an occasional appearance. Slightly uneven quality is made up for by a quantity that guarantees a few winners in every box.

DECENTRALIZE! #5 (\$1 from Carol Moore, Box 106, 632 Cloverdale, Los Angeles, CA 90036): Carol is promoting a union of convenience between libertarians, Greens, feminists, anarchists, and other radicals. Her proposal is that we all unite behind the single issue/strategy of decentralization to break down the oppressive forces to a more manageable size. **DECENTRALIZE!** presents all sorts of networking on this subject, from snippets of articles culled from all over to contact addresses for kindred spirits.

DEEP BIOREGIONAL ACTION-EXAMINER AND GREEN HIPPIE INTELLIGENCER #4 (Donation <\$100 from PO Box 748, El Prado, NM 87529): A publication dedicated to hardcore environmental activism, rather small because it wants to avoid using tree flesh. The talk is of direct action against the World Bank, ripping up modern industrialized society to get back to nature, and martyred flora and fauna killed during deforestation to grow crops. Proof that at least some hippies never grow out of it, for which I'm thankful.

DEMO (\$1 from Mary Fleener, 309 Oceanview, Encinitas, CA 92024): This came out last year but I'm reliably informed that there are hundreds of copies left. It's a collection of New Wavish comics loosely revolving around a "Monster" theme. Notable bits include pages by Fleener and Dennis Worden, creator of Stick Man and Gob. A few pages miss completely, but on the whole, a lot of laughs for the buck.



DE PROFUNDIS #187-188 (\$5/yr from LASFS, 11513 Burbank Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91601): The newszine of the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society. Right now they seem to be moving back into book and fanzine reviews, local news perhaps not getting out the new editors. And of course there's the humorous meeting minutes of the LASFS, particularly funny to those of us who have escaped, death or not. #188 offers a reprint of a 1940's newszine, surely something few have seen before.

DEREGULATOR #10-11 (\$8/yr from Rick Henderson, PO Box 1063, Chapel Hill, NC 27514): Maybe it's the legacy of the Civil War, but a lot of libertarian zines seem to come out of the South. **DEREG** is one of the newest, and now that the bugs are out of the desktop publishing yet it's even more worth reading. Particularly good in #10 was "Tommy Jefferson's History Paper", a revised and simplified Declaration of Independence. Also nice are Trever's professional editorial cartoons. #11 contains an incisive discussion of regulation vs. the free market in credit cards.

DIALOGUE #70-71 (\$5/yr from 916 Euterpe, New Orleans, LA 70130): Though the name-change didn't stick, the **DIALOGUE** folks are going ahead with their series of articles on the world of work anyhow, and a thought-provoking batch it has been so far. #70 sidestepped a bit with several articles and blurbs on anarchy, probably as a result of the Minneapolis Anarchorama. Each issue also features local socially progressive news. #71 concentrates on the recent Pope-a-rama.

DIGRESSIVE DIALOGUES #5 (\$1 CASH from Daniel Ust, PO Box 2355, Perth Amboy, NJ 08862): A collection of views from Dan, Bob Black (indirectly represented by quotes) and Marc Ely-Chaitlin on such things as voting, sexuality, and education. Dan is somewhere in the libertarian arena, writing from a hardcore realist (i.e. he doesn't believe in Natural Law) point of view, and quite entertaining without being dogmatic.

THE DILLINGER RELIC #54 (\$1 from Arthur D. Hlavaty, PO Box 52028, Durham, NC 27717): Multiple hugo nominations notwithstanding, Arthur's personal sfzine (perzine, for those in the field) is still a fun read, a nice combination of smartass and speculation. Topics in #54 include moving, John Barth, the latest GoldenCon, a trip to New York, and other disasters. Lots of literary criticism written with an eye towards amusing Arthur's own readers.

DISORDER July 1987 (\$12/yr from CTR Publications, 6138 Sub Blvd., Vancouver, BC V6T 2A4, CANADA): Newsprint zine from the student radio station at the University of British Columbia. As such it ends up being mainly promos for the stations and for local clubs and theatres, but there is also some musical coverage lurking inside. Kid Creole, Wire, Lounge Lizards all get space in the July ish.

DISCUSSION BULLETIN #24-25 (\$2/yr from PO Box 1564, Grand Rapids, MI 49501): An apa devoted to the exploration of "third force" socialism, the sort of one big union stuff preached by Daniel DeLeon and the IWW. Although many of the letters tend to wander off into abstruse theoretical discussion or historical debates, there is a core of

interesting talk here, and very good educational propaganda has been published in DB pages. I'm an occasional contributor, and find that even off-the-wall anarchist ideas are taken seriously by many DB writers.

THE DIXIE VOICE #6 (\$1 from Melissa Manuel, Route 2 Box 121-A, Germantown, NC 27019): "A Southern Alternative", this pfanzine concentrates on bands in and around North Carolina. The production has improved considerably in the first half-dozen issues, and the layout and photos are now very nice to the eyes. Features in #6: Jason & the Scorchers, Winter Hours, Kilkenny Cats, and more. Particularly interesting are the talks with producer Jay Johnson and the manager for the Connells manager about their recent US tour.

DOO/DAH #3 (\$3 from Dean Cole, 336 Hoover Ave., Bloomfield, NJ 07003): A stunning production from the one and only Bonzo Dog Band Fan Club. If you've never heard them, the Bonzos are a bizarre english group from years past, whose music is still as fresh and bizarre as ever. Fresh and bizarre aptly describes this zine as well; it's printed in dozens of colors on all manner of sizes of paper. The contents are a mix of current news of ex-Bonzos and nostalgia, with lots of lovely art, duck hats, blimps, sheet music, and more tipped in. Supported by the Bonzos themselves, this is a great adjunct to their strange brand of music.

WILLIAM DOCKERY

...sent me a whole bunch of minicomics, which are briefly reviewed below. There's actually a fair bit of words in most of these minis, with full pages being devoted to poetry in many. Anyhow, they're 50 cents each, postpaid, from William at 3226 A River Pl., Columbus, GA 31904. He's also happy to trade.

BODEEN #1-2: This one is actually by G.J. Sulzbach, and features a fairly anti-social biker and some booze and highway accident jokes. In #2 Sulzbach starts setting things up for a violent confrontation with a maniac in the woods.

DEMON HOUSE THEATRE #1-2: I don't know what's going on here, mainly because the panels on this strip are so damned small -- 20 or so on a mini-page. Seems to concern the soap-opera life of a bunch of hippies living in a haunted house.

EBOL9 #1-2: These come from P.D. Wilson, and are mostly poetry with a few simple drawings inserted. Topics revolve around death, alienation, and other unpleasanties.

ETHER TELEGRAMS: More by P.D. Wilson, a sort of free-form poem of "The History of the Universe" featuring sketchy little drawings.

THE FATHOS: A strange mystical tale that I suspect of being plotted in a dream, since it contains lots of action and outre characters (like underwater talking diamonds) but nearly no plot.

FIRECRACKERS #2-6: A lot of poetry crackling with imagery and a few sketchy drawings make up the typical issue. Dockery's style is almost willfully primitive, and it can get annoying in large doses.

IDIOT SOLVENT #1-3: Mainly another showcase for poetry, including a few more pieces by P.D. Wilson, who is heavy on imagery and light on feelings. Also features a few random drawings.

PALE BLUE LAND OF CANAAN #1-2: More of the same, but with more visual content than IDIOT SOLVENT. #1 in particular features a few pages in an intriguing heavy-inked style together with cryptic words -- sort of pre-detoured comics.

SHAMAN #47-48: Full-page drawings and somewhat surrealistic poetry combine to make this intriguing but not by any means obvious. There are apparently deep-seated emotions behind the cover art/poem pairs, but I'm not sure what they are.

WAX TOM CAT #1: Perhaps this will be most accesible of the Dockery pubs for many of my readers, inasmuch as author John Rice has chosen to include music reviews as well as drawings and stories in his mini. The overall tone is quite introspective, with the words and thoughts revolving around a rather gritty city, until the reviews come as a relief.

DOPPELGANGER 3 (\$2.50 from Richard Fawcett, 61 Tecomas Dr., Uncasville, CT 06382): A relatively new magazine of horror fiction and related topics. It's the related topics that are the most interesting, particularly an article on restoring old graveyards to, er, life. There are also music, movie, and book reviews, and the expectedly shocking fiction, most of it quite short.

DOVE POLITIK #1 (5 stamps from Allyson, 28 Wintersweet Way, Irvine, CA 92715): An idealistic little zine that is about 60% poetry. Most of the rest is reprints of socially-conscious stuff like draft counseling material and nuclear-free campaigning, with contact addresses. The poetry tends to be heartfelt anguish about living in a world with too many bombs and not enough food, together with small rays of hope about being able to change things.

DRAFT Notices Sept/Oct 1987 (\$10/yr from COMD, PO Box 15195, San Diego, CA 92115): The Committee Opposed to Militarism and the Draft continues to be one of the country's more active peace groups. Their continuing efforts to get the truth about military service out to high-school youth are truly impressive, with presentations to 71 classes this year. Other news covers local peace activism and the fate of indicted draft resisters.

THE DROOD REVIEW Vol. VII #7-8 (\$16/yr from PO Box 8872, Boston, MA 02114): An essential zine for the mystery fan.

There's no author-worship or gushing over the latest moonlighting episode here; instead, DROOD features piles of reviews of the latest and (mostly) best books in the field. #7 features a selection of "Beach Blanket" books, things to take to the shore for summer. #8 is the indispensable Fall Preview issue, briefly listing over 500 books scheduled for release over the coming months.

DUCKBERG TIMES #36 (50 cents from PO Box 382, Alexandria, VA 22313): This tabloid is now a monthly and expanding fast. DT is primarily a pfanzone, with articles in #36 (for example) about Scruffy the Cat, the Dead Milkmen, and Cromags. There's also lots of good-looking graphics and comics, and a personal ads section. They're looking to expand their distribution area, and might be a good deal for advertisers.

THE DUPLEX PLANET #85-86 (\$1.25 from PO Box 1230, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866): Dave Greenberger's zine is by now an institution in the small press, still unique after years of publication. DP is made up of questions by Dave and answers by senior citizens, mainly residents of the Duplex nursing home. The interchange is by turns snide, informative, and just plain bizarre. Humor and enlightenment mix in one small monthly package. #86 contains the collected wit, wisdom and oral history of Walter Kieran, a Duplex regular who recently died.

EARTH ISLAND JOURNAL Summer 1987 (\$3 from 300 Broadway #28, San Francisco, CA 94133-9905): A thick newsprint zine of environmental and related news. The 48 pages are split up between general news -- overgrazing, nuke testing, development in Central America and the California Condor are a few of the topics in this issue -- and pages devoted to the Earth Island Institute's projects, including the International Rivers Network, the Rainforest Action Network, and the International Marine Mammal Project. Subscribe to this "International Environmental News Magazine" and you'll never look at "civilization" the same way again.

ECHO LINE #1 (\$1 from 1942 Pomar Way, Walnut Creek, CA 94598): A pfanzone composed mainly of interviews. They hit some reasonably big names in #1, including MDC and the Mr. T Experience. Someone else talks about the Great Peace March and there are cuttings and photos apparently meant to provoke people to think.

EELSKIN COMIX #4 (50 cents from PO Box 85457, Seattle, WA 98145-1457): A batch of rude, crude and socially unacceptable comix. Among the topics treated here are the Third Reich, sex of various kinds, drug abuse, homophobia, and other unsavory things. The art styles range from pretty amateurish to nearly non-representational. More of an attack on the reader than a comic book.

THE EIGHTH DOMAIN #10 (\$2 or so from Linda Frankel, 10701 Estepa Dr., Oakland, CA 94603): An apa devoted to Darkover and related topics. It's in reasonably good shape, with members all over the map and about 65 pages in this mailing, but still looking for more writers. Some of the discussions going on concern the alphabet on Darkover, homophobia in fandom, alcoholicism, Darkover fanzines, and the world of Darkover. Some folks are also publishing fiction and book reviews. Looks like a pretty friendly bunch, worth checking out if you like Marion Zimmer Bradley's books at all.

EL DJARIDA #5-6 (4 IRCs from Guttorm, Postbox 4536 Kalvskinn, 7002 Trondheim, NORWAY): A nifty mail art magazine that's on its last laps (#7 has been announced as the "Burial Issue"). #5 is the "Mail Art Manifest", a selection of texts and drawings on the subject of mail art itself that is vastly informative to the beginner. I recommend it wholeheartedly to anyone who wants to find out what this stuff is all about. #6, on the other hand, is all pictures, with the only words being a tipped-in sheet explaining who drew what. Its 64 pages range from drawing to collage to photography to conceptual art (documented by photo) and back again. Some of it works, some of it fails, but it seems to me that there is little in principle to separate this stuff (at least on artistic merits) from that hanging in many galleries.

ELECTROGENESIS #12 (\$19.95/yr from Len Wiles, 1940 Ginger #40, Oxnard, CA 93030): A very well-done pfanzone for the experimental electronic music underground. Len talks about new theoretical ideas like using the resonant frequencies of molecules in music or the idea of music as a meme. He also interviews other members of the cassette culture and makes apparent the many links into mail art and other experimental art. A good networking node.

ENDLESS PARTY #9-11 (75 cents from 1765 N. Highland Box 703, Hollywood, CA 90078): Can you say "trendy"? Then you're ready for this Hollywood tabloid, aimed squarely at the set who think that funny hats, sequins and long gloves are the perfect costume. Lots of photos of teen girls, shallow live show reviews, and occasional tributes to such memorable folks as the Ramones and Jim Carroll, plus ads from hair stylists and clothing shops.

ERC NEWSLETTER Aug.-Oct. 1987 (\$5/yr from PO Box 460, Floyd, VA 24091): As near as I can tell, the Educational Resource Cooperative is a community space available to all who want to teach and learn in a friendly setting. Interests include everything from home schooling to giving concerts to women's support work. The August issue was largely devoted to plans for the Harmonic Convergence. The September ish contained reports on the Harmonic Convergence and the Rainbow Gathering.

EUTHANASIA #3/ARTCORE #5 (\$1.50 from Ron Lacer, 81 Park Dr. #3, Boston, MA 02215): A dual pzfanzine published Ace-double style. EUTHANASIA is Ron's zine, a collection of punkoid art and comix. Most of the stuff is pretty gnarly, with downer and disgusting images prevailing. ARTCORE is run by his buddy Welly, which is mostly hardcore punk interviews with more graphics. Bands in #5 include Shrapnel and Adrenalin OD.

THE EVENT #23 (\$4 from PO Box 203, Pequannock, NJ 07440): A "Journal of Clothes-Optional Living on the Eastern Seaboard" that goes in for a mix of sensual photography and social commentary. #23 includes a story on a topless picnic in Rochester (where no one was arrested, to the frustration of those looking for a legal test case) and an updated list of East Coast nude beaches.

EXTRA! Vol. 1 #2-3 (\$24/yr from FAIR, 666 Broadway #400, New York, NY 10012): A newsletter dedicated to the proposition that the major media are heavily biased. The difference is that they say the lean is to the right rather than the left as more usually claimed. This is at least a good counterbalance to the various conservative scare-stories about liberal reporters. #3 includes excellent coverage of the soft underbelly of Ollie North's testimony and investigations of the Washington TIMES.

EXTRA BULLETIN #1 (SASE (?) from Boxholder, PO Box 5986, Chicago, IL 60680): Apocalyptic Communism. In #1 the writer goes out on a limb to predict a worldwide economic crash and "inevitable economic depression" that, presumably, will herald in the revolution. Also contains a Marxist analysis of labor troubles in the meatpacking industry and addresses for European communist groups.

FACES AND BODIES (\$1 from Denise Dee, 29A Guy Pl., San Francisco, CA 94105): Simple, direct, forceful first-person stories of women's sexuality and related topics ranging from violence against women to abortions. Some of the pieces here are ecstatically passionate, some are blunt and scary, but they all give the impression of being from the heart. The writers put a lot of themselves on the line here; fortunately, Denise has built up a very understanding audience for these glimpses of life as it is. Read this if you've ever wondered what another human being felt.

FALSE POSITIVE #8 (\$3 from Donna Kossy, PO Box 432, Boston, MA 02258): The long-awaited KOOKS II issue of this zine of art and modern living. Inside these pages are rants and manifestos from the gutters and telephone poles of the world; people who've been contacted by UFOs or God or the Government; people who are being persecuted by other forces; and just plain Kooks. Comes with an insert booklet of collage by Dr. Ahmed Fishmonger and loving collages by Donna herself, including the technosport color photocopy cover. Words from an underground so far out of touch that most of us never dream of it.

FANTASY AND TERROR New Series #3 (\$2.50 from Richard Fawcett, 61 Teeconwas Dr., Uncasville, CT 06382): Edited by Jessica Amanda Salmonson, this little collection of macabre stories is a real delight. Jessica publishes selected works from budding writers -- Archie Roy's "Pruning the Flowers" is a bone-chilling delight -- and reprints lost works from past generations of writers, including Bierce and Long as well as unknowns like Mary Arrington. Cuddle up to a banked fire with a glass of sherry and savor this one.

The Ninth FANTASY MACABRE (\$3 from Richard Fawcett, 61 Teeconwas Dr., Uncasville, CT 06382): A rather more

blood-curdling analogue of the above magazine, put out by the same team of folks. The horrors here move slowly but steadily to their climaxes, whether they be newly-written or translated from unavailable collectors' editions. I just loved Cappy Kotz's "Faces", as gruesome a tale as any could desire. Jessica has an ear for picking stories that roll over the reader and leave him breathless.

FAN'TOONS #17 (\$1 from Edd Vick, 5014-D Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105): After a moving-related absence, this fatter-than-usual (32 pages) mini has returned. #17 is the "Bucket O' Bolts Issue", with most of the drawings by various artists being of robots rather than funny animals (though there is at least one cross, a "Rab-bot"). In addition, Edd discusses the state of the world, both real and comics, and publishes an essay on the universe of the cartoon character Inspector Gadget.

FARCE #2 (75 cents from Rat, 2715 Garfield S., Minneapolis, MN 55408): A zine that's part of the growing punk/anarchist cross-fertilization. Rat interviews bands (Shrapnel, Test Monkey, Instigators), but he also writes about the banality of religion, the prospects for squatting in Minneapolis, and putting an end to racism. There's a lot of from the heart writing here, and a willingness to use direct action to solve problems that some will find attractive.

FEMINIST BASEBALL #5 (\$2 from Jeff Smith, PO Box 9609, Seattle, WA 98109): An "All-fiction" issue that still features the occasional collage, as well as storyboards for a short film about "The Last Philosopher". Other entries include Closest Penguins reprints, a poem about writing poetry by the editor, and a strange story about obsessive play from Greg Kalina. These writers have ideas and the words to get them across.

FENICI 1-4 (Francisco Vidal, Apt - 430, 43200 Reux, (Baix Camp), SPAIN): These arrived in a box with postcards, a bizarre electronic record with a spraypainted picture on the flipside, and other goodies. No price, so I'd say trade your mail art or send a couple of IRCs and hope for an answer. FENICI is a huge tabloid art publication, written in Spanish, featuring everything from dance to drawing, music to mail art, and stories to sculptures. Visually stunning and quite large, these are easily worth five to ten bucks apiece, especially if you can read them and like the avant-garde.

FESTIVAL OF THE SWAMPS (50 cents (?) from Xexoxial Endarchy, 1341 Williamson, Madison, WI 53703): The Festival of the LAKES is Madison's mainstream arts festival; the F.O.T. SWAMPS is a parody/counter-festival organized by the prolific Michael And and Liz Was. This pamphlet tells its story, chiefly in the form of reprinted mainstream press coverage, which is mainly sympathetic. Notable for pictures of the Museum of Temporary Art.

THE FICTION REVIEW Vol. 1 #2 (\$2 from PO Box 1508, Tempe, AZ 85281): A high-quality production -- textured paper, dark printing -- that doesn't stint on the contents either. Contents range from stories of normal relationships by Gregory Burnham and Christopher Fahy to a bar conversation reported by Don Webb to a series of strange drawings by Jake Berry. Head-scratching stuff.

FIFTH ESTATE #326 (\$5/yr from PO Box 02548, Detroit, MI 48202): A hard-hitting anarchist newspaper that is always a joy to receive. This issue contains some reporting on the Minneapolis anarchist gathering, a response to the (then) forthcoming Papal visit to Detroit, reflections on Bernie Goetz and American class divisions, and the usual indictment

RIC E. BRADEN
IF/THEN

30 minutes of uninterrupted
electro/industrial computer synth
and tape-processed emotion
on chrome with dolby.

\$4 postpaid from
(\$5 foreign)

RICE RECORDS
P.O. Box 7922
Olympia, WA 98507

of modern capitalist technology. Though sometimes excessively academic, FE is always fun to read, and enough of it is accessible to the average reader to make it well worth getting even if you're not familiar with Mumford and Heidigger.

FILM THREAT #12 (\$2.95 from Christian Gore, PO Box 951, Royal Oak, MI 48068): Ostensibly "The film magazine for the jaded moviegoer", this one won't mean any more to you than the names Lydia Lunch, Lung Leg, Nick Zedd and Rich Kern -- much of it is devoted to the cult movies from this New York clique. Other features include a rundown on mass-murder films by horrific expert Jack Stevenson and an extended interview with director Emile de Antonio.

FINE MADNESS Vol. 4 #2 (\$4 from PO Box 15176, Seattle, WA 98115-0176): A journal of mostly poetry broken up by the occasional story, essay (Bob Black on the marginals) or review. The poets seem to have a definite Northwestern air about them, writing of farms and forests and life and love, venturing into the cities only when it is necessary to make a point. Mary Helen Stefaniak's "Football Saturday" is the only major story here, a tale of deathly devotion to a game. A nice collection but somehow a bit too restrained for my tastes.

THE FIRST HOUR Vol. 2 #3-4 (\$15/yr from PO Box 523, New Hyde Park, NY 11040): Actually that's just a mail drop, as this thick journal of the Patristic Society is actually published in Tokyo. The PS is dedicated to the ideas and memory of the Fathers of the [Christian] Church. Their content, though, is wider than this might indicate; besides the ancient wise sayings and writings, there are also modern clerihews, movie reviews, theological discussions, book reviews, and much more. For people of a firm, and relatively simple, Christian faith.

FLIPSIDE #53 (\$1.50 from PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): A fat and long-running pfnzine that continues to stick close to punk, though they do aberrant things from time to time, like printing an interview with me in #53. But most of the other folks in the issue are more musical, in one way or another: DOA, Pillsbury Hardcore, and the Stupids, for example. Every issue also has a humongous letter section, cheap classified ads, and a fanzine contact column, plus the world's strangest band names in the ads.

FLORIDA CONTACT LIST (SASE from No Fraud, c/o Dan Destructo, 475 Foxglove Rd., Venice, FL 34293): A single-sheet listing of zines, bands, clubs and other scene members in Florida. They'll list anyone in the state who stays in touch every month or so, and hope to make this a central point in the music underground.

FLY BY NIGHT COMICS #3 (75 cents from Gordon Ludlow, PO Box 85883, Seattle, WA 98145-1883): A collection of widely varying quality that includes some good bits (like Jesus Christ on a TV talk show) and some oddities (like a complete reprint of FBN COMICS #1). The legendary Fat Mike creeps in for a cameo appearance and the last spread is devoted to campaigning against the anti-pornographers.

FORCED EXPOSURE #12 (\$4 from PO Box 1611, Waltham, MA 02254): FE gets bigger and more ingrown every issue. By now there's so much snarking and nasty comments about scenesters that it gets in the way of the music reportage -- which still covers the dregs of the music world. In #12 there's a long series on the Child Molesters, fiction by Steve Albin and Richard Meltzer, and more porno movie reviews. Of course there's always a hell of a lot of music reviews and selected live show reviews that range from terminally nasty to grudgingly complimentary. At 114 pages, this monster packs a wallop, but it's not really an accessible one.

FOURTH REICH UPDATE #1 (Donation from PO Box 536, Rustburg, VA 24588): A new zine that is seeking to organize the rather diffuse opposition to Fundamentalism that already runs through the underground. The editor has done his homework, and there are a lot of sleazy facts here on Falwell particularly -- no smoking guns, but the financial figures and quotes to prove he's a money-grubbing bigot. They're looking for folks to help make this a better zine and welcome ideas for useful actions to take.

FRASER FORUM May 1987 (\$3 from The Fraser Institute, 626 Bute St., Vancouver, BC V6E 3M1, CANADA): This appears to be sort of a Canadian analogue of THE FREEMAN. It's a collection of editorials and radio commentaries produced by folks from this conservative libertarian think tank. Apparently they are

worshippers of the Great God Market to cure mankind's ills. You can get the same ideology, more attractively packaged and cheaper, from the FREEMAN, so the only reason for this one is to have the Canadian examples to draw on.

FREEDOM NEWSDIGEST Vol. 6 #1 (\$2 from PO Box 160, Bloomington, CA 92316): A Constitutionalist tabloid supported by the EPIA society, of whom you have read here in the past. They reprint articles from all over on topics of interest to those who think government has gone too far: IRS abuses, zoning laws, fighting traffic tickets, suppressed medical knowledge, and so on. Quite a potpourri.

FREEDOMWEEK (On Request from Humanistic Science Publications, PO Box 84116, San Diego, CA 92138): A single sheet of "ideas, opinions and commentary...from a perspective of skepticism and militant freethought." This issue is an apologetic revision of the life of John Reed, who is seen as not such a bad guy after all.

THE FREEDOM WRITER Vol. IV #6 (\$10/yr from Simon, Porteus & Associates, PO Box 789, Housatonic, MA 01236): This one calls itself "The national newsletter that defends the separation of church and state", but when you couple that with an extremely liberal political position you get essentially a rundown on the doings of the religious right in this country. Targets in #6 include Falwell, Robertson, and The Bible Speaks.

THE FREEMAN Aug.-Oct. 1987 (On Request from FEE, 30 South Broadway, Irvington-on-Hudson, NY 10533): I'm constantly amused at the sight of this Libertarian think tank sending out their slick little magazine for free to anyone who asks for it. Each issue contains eight or ten articles arguing, with footnotes, for things like postal deregulation or elimination of farm subsidies or the discontinuance of transfer payments. It all hangs together neatly, but sometimes I wonder if the world is really that simple. The September issue contains an ode to the Constitution as a wise set of restraints on power, which shows that these folks aren't so very far from the mainstream. In fact, as the October issue makes clear, they think they're liberals.

FREE PRESS NETWORK Vol. 6 #1 (\$20/yr from FPA, PO Box 15548, Columbus, OH 43215): The newsletter of the Free Press Association, a group of journalists interested in promoting a liberal interpretation of the First Amendment. Thus, they tend towards a libertarian slant on things. Most of the news here is about the annual Mencken Awards and the various assaults on freedom of speech in society today.

FREE STUDENTS UNION #1 (SASE (?) from FSU, PO Box 1063, Yorba Linda, CA 92686): Essentially a flyer proposing that high school students ought to unionize for strength against the school administrations. They propose distributing information and fighting injustice, but this looks like pretty much just a call for warm bodies.

FREE TNT Vol. I #6 (\$1 (?) from 449 S. 43rd St., Philadelphia, PA 19104): A tabloid covering the Philly punk scene. Despite some setbacks -- like the loss of most of an issue's writing -- they're hanging in there and expanding. #6 features an ELECTRIC LOVE MUFFIN tour diary, a snide review of Rich Kern's films, and lots of local news and photos.

THE FRONTIER UNCTION #3 (\$8/yr from Frontier Books, 8 Bergen St., Brooklyn, NY 11201): A mix of (mostly) poetry with short short stories and some pretty blank verse. Relationships seem to be the major common denominator, with sex and love both wandering in from time to time. Raw-edged, mildly-dirty stuff. Looking for more folks to get in on the fun.

F.T.W. #1 (\$1 (?) from Howard Charcofsky, 33-21 85th St., Jck. Hgts., NY 11372): "We're just a couple of pretentious Record-Collecting Assholes with Bad: Grammar, Spelling, Breath; self-righteous reviews and opinions", say the editors in this premiere issue. They're right. Most of the interviews here seem to be taken as jokes by the staff; despite this you can learn something (but not much) about Glitter Witch, Sloppy Seconds, and False Prophets by reading this zine.

FUCKED SHIT FIVE (50 cents (?) from 1268 Clayton, San Francisco, CA 94114): I don't know who this is from, but they supplied a return address so you're in luck. Since I think parody is one of the sincerest forms of flattery, I'm quite amused by this minicomic sized review of imaginary zines, from

the opening "I'm sorry I couldn't make the print any smaller" to the closing "Back cover by some well known artist". In between are reviews of such notable works as Neutron Gunk, Beets Mean Murder, Southern Libertarian Bike Messenger, The Abolition of Jerks, and a dozen or so more.

FULL DISCLOSURE #13 (\$1.50 from PO Box 8275, Ann Arbor, MI 48107): A tabloid which takes a basically libertarian approach: that the state is wrong. However, rather than advance the usual philosophical arguments, FD attacks the problem from the other side, by chronicling and protesting government abuses. So CIA harassment of citizens, tax resistance, surveillance of protestors and recent civil rights actions alike come in for scrutiny. FD also sells a batch of books on getting and keeping privacy.

FUNGUS RODEO #1 (\$2 from PO Box 951, Royal Oak, MI 48068): Co-editors Steve Raymond and Christian Gore have managed to put together something to offend just about anyone: a centerfold spread on gerbiling, recipes from the Anarchist cookbook, various words of wisdom from Charlie Manson and etiquette for trendy parties. For some reason they mix this up with interviews with Jack Kirby and Wildman Fischer. An odd and offensive mix, sure to sell lots of copies.

FUTURE Vol. 3 #10- Vol. 4 #1 (\$2 from PO Box 228, Butte, ND 58723): These people are apparently a key point in the plot to usher in a New Age. The contents vary wildly from issue to issue, but always concern the bad things that are going on now and the good alternatives the future holds. #10 urges us to live for each and every moment and warns us against irradiated food and weapons testing in the Black Hills. #1 is heavy on the possibilities of founding a humanistic technology, together with the consequences of our current profit-oriented one.

FUZBRAINS #14 (\$1 from PO Box 2436, Worcester, MA 01613): A pfanzine dedicated to what they see as the true rock'n'roll -- which dates back to some time around the summer of love. Psychedelia rules here, with the cover and other art being eye-popping. #14 features a long interview with Sweden's Wylde Mammoths as well as stories on Plan 9 and Time Being and lots of columnists and reviews.

GALACTIC CROSSROADS #6 (\$2.50 from Niles Hokkanen, PO Box 2352, Clarksburg, WV 26302): A music zine for mandolin players. You think I'm kidding? Well, who else would read pages of reviews of mandolin music, tips on how to play the darned things, and sheet music for various new and traditional tunes? GC also branches out into other acoustic strings like fiddles.

THE GATE Vol. 3 #2 (\$1.25 from Beth Robbins, PO Box 43518, Richmond Heights, OH 44143): A newsletter of Forteanism -- unexplained occurrences in the modern world. #2 seems to have a sort of Bigfoot theme, with an article on its habits and a couple of recent sighting reports. There are also things on UFOs, the inability of Forteanism to solve any problems, and books of interest. Some news is picked up from mainstream sources, but there doesn't seem to be silly-ass sensationalism here, just honest mysteries.

GATHERING RESISTANCE Vol. 1 #4 (\$7/7 issues from GeoBooks, 131 Mangels Ave., San Francisco, CA 94131): "We Must Build Ourselves a Base" is the subtitle of this new leftist/activist newsletter. The main thrust here is to stop the administration's assault on the Nicaraguan government, through lobbying Congress not to supply more Contra funds and through going to Nicaragua oneself to build schools and dams or harvest coffee. There are also tidbits of Central American and peace news.

GENERAL STRIKE #19 (44 cents postage from SKA, PO Box 23144, Knoxville, TN 37933): Well, the anarchist scene in K-ville is hopping, with the Society of Knoxville Anarchists connecting with a couple of other local groups and putting out a most energetic issue of GS. Topics inside range from reporting on local events to historical perspectives to current activism (Big Mountain) to just plain silly (a punk rock comic strip). Impressively upbeat.

GET SMART! #2 (75 cents from John Kelly, PO Box 378, Lake Lincolndale, NY 10540): A digest-sized mostly-humor zine that takes forays into the new music scene now and then. Most of the humor is wedged at some angle to the real world, like the letter from the Midwest college sophomore who meets a real knockout at a frat party and then...well, it's not what you think. Particularly good in #2 are God's thoughts about television, the non-sequitir Pope jokes, and the consumer

guide to those cheap novelty items you find in the back of comic books.

GHOSTBUSTERS Vol. 1 #4-5 (\$1/12 issues from American Forum, PO Box 261, Staten Island, NY 10302): A small monthly from the publishers of AMERICAN FORUM. GHOSTBUSTERS is devoted to news of ghosties and ghoulies and things that go bump in the night. Mostly it's been supermarket tabloid stuff but a few more serious folks seem to be getting in touch lately. #4 concentrates on vampires and their legends.

GIG MAGAZINE Mar.-Apr. 1987 (\$5.95/yr from PO Box 7335, Northridge, CA 91327-7335): A zine dedicated to the proposition that Top 40 cover bands make more money than the average originals band, and deserve a slick outlet of their own. This one reviews some of the best cover bands, gives hints on gigging and recording, and generally advises newcomers on how to make the bucks by playing sleazy bars and senior proms.

GLITCH NEWS Vol. III #8 (\$7/yr from PO Box 4429, Austin, TX 78765): What started out as PR handouts for Glitch Records has evolved into a full-scale typeset fanzine that's looking pretty good these days. #8 features an interview with Dino Lee, lots of local gossip, and the continuing story of a band with more pose than sense as well as useful scene extras like a list of recording studios.

GOD'S PHYSICIANS Aug. 1987 (\$15/yr from 26 Spiral Ln., Levitown, NY 11756): "An end times newsletter combining true health principles with God's last, loving, warning to the world". I can't find much health here though, beyond simple exhortations to get plenty of rest, eat well, and be abstemious. But there's plenty of warnings, chiefly to those poor deluded Catholics who are aiding and abetting the Beast, that is, the Catholic church.

GREED #2 (\$2 from Kurt Sayenga, PO Box 39020, Washington, DC 20016): A fat, professional-looking zine that has moved beyond the editor's roots in the music scene. There is still some coverage of music, like the article on Rock Star Syndrome or the first Pandoras coverage I've seen that doesn't fawn all over them (rather, Kurt attempts to probe their rather obvious marketing strategy). But GREED also has stories and poems and nifty graphics, and a review of major-market critics, along with the Robyn Hitchcock interview and the page of small-print show reviews. A lot of thoughtful fun in a classy package.

GREEN ANARCHIST #16 (L9/10 issues from 19 Magdalen Rd., Oxford OX4 1RP, ENGLAND): An anarchist magazine that stands out for a couple of reasons. First, it is visually attractive, paying attention to graphics and design. Second, it attempts to bring the ecological, "Green", concerns into confrontation with the anarchist movement (running into snags on such issues as worker solidarity). Finally, it takes seriously the notion of developing a counter-culture, and so publishes book and poetry reviews, recipes, and music notes. A good mix that doesn't fit in with the usual factions.

GROT #1 (\$1 from Jim Testa, 151 First Ave., Box A, New York, NY 10003): A companion to JERSEY BEAT and successor to TEEN PUNK -- got it? Jim and his writers use the pages of GROT to venture out of Jersey and pay homage to bands they like, without regard for popularity. So it is that #1 features the Descendents, Redd Kross, Chronic Disorder, and Necropolis, along with a pile of reviews of music way out on the edge of the underground.

-Specializing in Poetry,
Literature, Drama & ART

* FRONTIER BOOKS *

-NOW STOCKING MARGINALS-

SEND \$1 For THE FRONTIER UNCTION

8 BERGEN STREET
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11201

NEAL KEATING
PROPRIETOR
Home: 718 522-3108

GRUE #5 (\$4 from Peggy Nadramia, PO Box 370, Times Sq. Stn., New York, NY 10108): Nearly 90 pages of digest-sized horror and fantasy. Many of the stories in #5 seemed too arty or cryptic for my tastes, but a couple of standouts saved the issue for me. Thomas Monteleone's "Yesterday's Child" is a wonderful tale of childhood regained, touching without being tearjerking; David Starkey's "Trimmings" is a stomach-wrencher, telegraphed but still nauseating; and Don Webb's "Kaj" is a cute little piece of offbeat horror. The artwork, commissioned for the individual stories, is, as always, very well done and makes the whole zine a pleasant visual experience -- at least if you can find anything so horrible pleasant.

THE GUARDIAN 8/12/87-9/16/87 (\$14.50/6 months from 33 W. 17th St., New York, NY 10011): This "Independent Radical Newsweekly" is a lot more mainstream than most of what I review, but since one of you readers put me on their mailing list I figured I'd mention it. The coverage in this tabloid is international but concentrates on the US, and on long-running major stories: Contragate, Central America, the Supreme Court. But there is also coverage of lesser-known rights issues like the campaign against the homeless in LA and the firing of a worker for cornrowing her hair. A trifle unbalanced but very detailed in its reporting.

GUERRILLA SKANK JOURNAL ENTRIES #1-2 ("Available by whim" from Chris Estey, 330 NE 90th St., Seattle, WA 98115): A few pages of xeroxed collages, thoughts, and reviews. Watch out for the "Poseur Top Ten" to keep you updated on what's new and trendy. No indication of price, but probably an SASE will get you something in the cynical smartass mode. #2 includes an interview with visiting dignitary Bob Black.

HANDICAP NEWS Vol. 3 #8-10 (\$10.50/yr from 3060 E. Bridge St. #342, Brighton, CO 80601): "Informative reading" for and about those with various handicaps -- everything from swallowing problems to paraplegia. The emphasis is on positive news and new developments, like a talking word processor. There are plenty of contact addresses for various support and information groups, and a section of short essays and poems. Starting with #9 they're focusing attention on the problems of caregivers as well.

HARVEST, Lammas-Autumn 1987 (\$10/yr from PO Box 228, S. Framingham, MA 01701): A pagan zine that is heavily into connections of all sorts -- not only networking among pagans, but connections between pagan religions and the wider world. In the Lammas ish, for example, the problems facing Judaic pagans are discussed. Each issue also contains all sorts of news snippets and contact addresses. The Autumn ish contains an interesting proposal for bringing the pagans out of the closet. The Chinese Astrology series continues throughout.

THE HEATHEN SCIENCE MONITOR July/Aug.-Oct. 1987 (\$6/yr from PO Box 3181, Traffic Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55403): A small humor zine that constantly provides smiles where no other publication dares tread. The July issue argues for the retention of a porno theatre that the Guardian Angels are trying to shut down and presents an ad for Uncle Ollie's Weekend Retreat for Sensitive Men. 90 degrees off of reality.

HELL TOUPEE #1 (\$1.50 from Yvonne Garrett, c/o Chelsea Hotel, 222 W. 23rd St. #525, New York, NY 10010): Yvonne and co-editor Alyson Mead have put together a hard-driving (and sometimes hard to read) pzfanzine with a lot to recommend it. The basic idea is to get drunk, have a good time, and enjoy the music. Wandering through the first issue are such notables as Fetchin Bones, Blind Idiot God, and Halo of Flies, in various permutations of interviews and stream of consciousness.

HIGH SCHOOL IS A WASTELAND (39 cents postage from Glen Hirabayashi, 9325 Garrison Way, Eden Prairie, MN 55344): A fairly generic pzfanzine, with a short interview (Desecration) and shorter zine and tape reviews. But there are a couple of things here that I haven't seen elsewhere: a rundown on the Yugoslavian hardcore label No Profit Tapes, and a listing of 23 "Skate Contacts". At the edges of the network one can still find new paths to follow.

THE HILLS BEFORE THE CITY (70 cents from Mark Fearing, 514 W. Doty #107, Madison, WI 53703): Published under the Gubba Gub Comics imprint, this b&w comic tells the somewhat

Orwellian story of a few animal families living in close proximity to one another. Can the piglet, the puppy, and the kitten overcome the mutual intolerances of their parents? I guess you'll have to get a copy to find out. Nice art, and the whole story is told in doggerel.

HI-TECH TERROR #24-26 (\$6/12 issues from PO Box 5367, Kingwood, TX 77325): A guide to video movies that are so horrible that your local sleazeo store might not even bother to stock them. Why anyone would want to see such movies is another question, but Craig Ledbetter does a decent job of reviewing these turkeys, revealing only enough plot to convince me that I don't want to see the darned things while giving a good impression as to the amounts of sex, nudity, and gore contained in each flick. #25 includes a review of VIDEO VIOLENCE: WHEN RENTING'S NOT ENOUGH, apparently the genre's fling into self-reference and #26 tipped me off to the existence of NAIL-GUN MASSACRE ("It's Cheaper than a Chainsaw!")

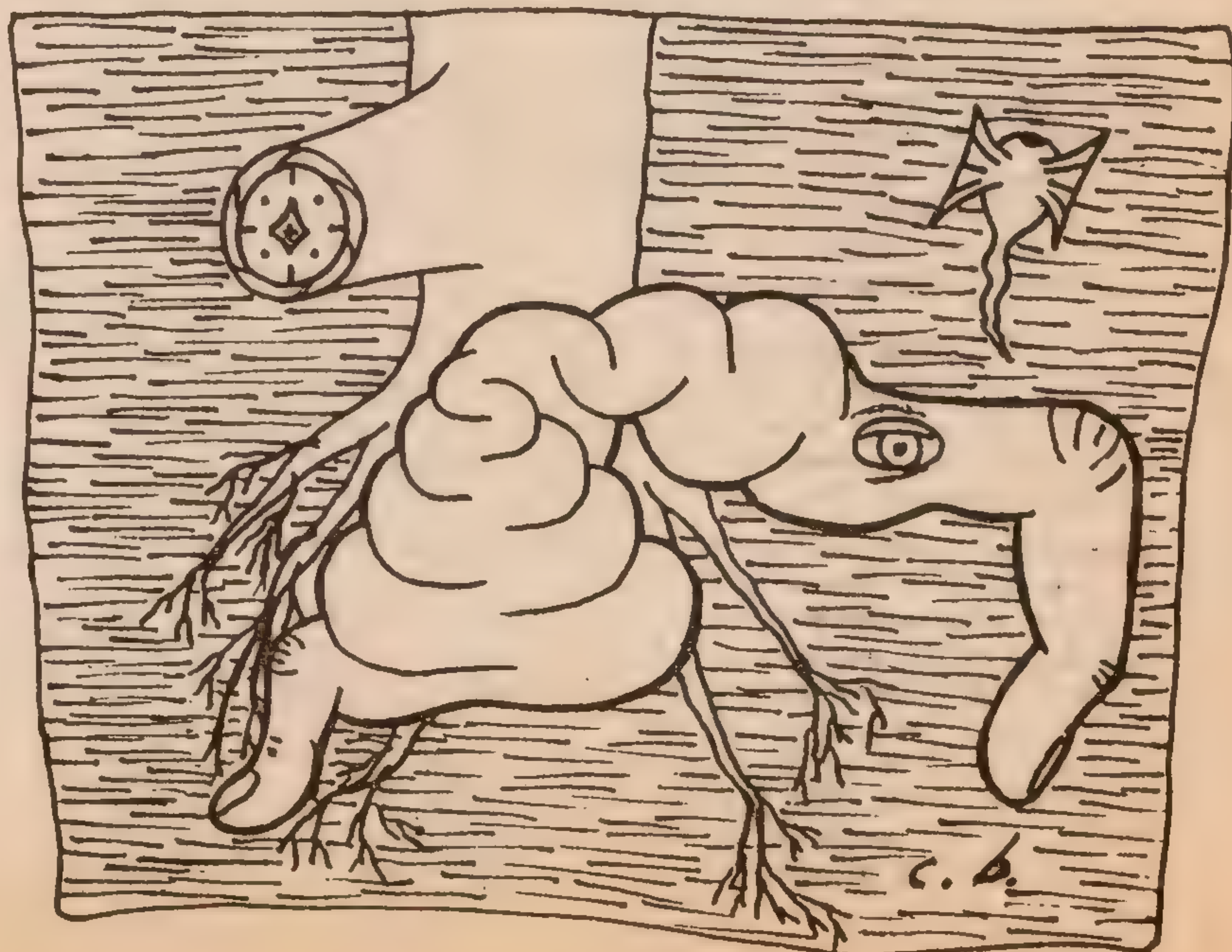
HOBOW STEW #12 (\$5/yr from 236 Kelton St. #14, Allston, MA 02134): A small chatty literary zine that's looking for creative work from anyone who dare set pen to paper. The editor writes under the name of "Hobo Stew", and is responsible for most of the prose and poetry in this issue. He's got a bizarre second-person style of writing and some very strange ideas.

HOLLYWOOD BOOK AND POSTER CO. NEWS (\$1 (?) from Hollywood Book & Poster Co., 1706 N. Las Palmas, Hollywood, CA 90028): These folks run a legitimate store for the obscure media buff, and apparently put out this zine in their spare time. The current issue is a treat for the horror/exploitation film buff, featuring as it does long interviews with Herschell Lewis, David Friedmann and Bruce Campbell. Recommended for the psychotronic set.

HURRICANE ALICE Vol. 4 #4 (\$2.50 from 207 Lind Hall, 207 Church St., Minneapolis, MN 55455): "A feminist quarterly", this one is filled with writing by and for women that does not go out of its way to alienate men either. #4 is a special "Women and Film" issue, filled with reviews and interviews with feminist moviemakers. The strongest piece, though, is a bit of fiction from Jodi Stutz, who writes convincingly and lovingly about a quite unconventional relationship.

I-94 (The Usual from Spike Parsons, PO Box 535, Madison, WI 53701): A traditional sort of sfzine, which is to say it's about the everyday life of Spike and Luke McGuff and Joe Hoppe. Well, not everyday, but rather some special days, those spent cruising along the interstate highway, singly and together. It's a fun set of tales, particularly when Joe gets moving on some more of his past adventures in an almost-stolen van.

IAN #3 (\$1 from Ian Christie, PO box 5, Columbus, IN 47202): A digest-sized pzfanzine with a batch of chatty interviews (Primal Scream, Papsmeat, Have Mercy, and more), a



few record reviews, and enough idiosyncracies to make it memorable. For example, #3 includes video game reviews, and the records are rated by the maximum price Ian would pay for them. Much more together than the usual one-person zine.

ICE RIVER #1 (\$3.50 from 953 N. Gale, Union, OR 97883): The first issue of the literary magazine that complements their semimonthly newsletter. The stories and poetry here tend towards cryptic imagery rather than narrative plot, with Frederick Hohing, Misha Chocholak, and Don Webb weaving spells of wonder in the premiere issue. Poetry by Mel Buffington, Rane Arroyo and many others helps heighten the mood. A very nice start for a new magazine.

ICE RIVER Vol. 3 #4 (\$1.50 from 953 N. Gale, Union, OR 97883): This is the other half of the IR project, a ten-page newsletter that seems to work in another plug for FF every issue, thanks to the reviewing efforts of Misha Chocholak. There's also experimental music and mainstream book reviews and short poetry here, mainly in more traditional modes.

ILLINI REVIEW Sept. 1987 (\$15/yr from PO Box 2643, Stn. A, Champaign, IL 61820): Another conservative campus tabloid (and yes, if that's the way you judge newspapers, the biggest ad is from Coors). They devote most of their space to satirizing the left in and around the U. of Illinois, but also manage to talk to judge Bork and discuss such great bits of culture as the new James Bond movie and P.J. O'Rourke's book. Literate and self-consciously annoying.

IMAGO (39 cent SASE from Joseph Kerrick, PO Box 29145, Philadelphia, PA 19127): From the ashes of PANEGYRIC rises this new, and stranger, zine. Joseph is no longer talking just about the collapse of civilization and the need for becoming wild people, in touch with nature again. Now he's revealing the whole world view that leads him to this conclusion. It's like something out of ILLUMINATUS!: travel between universes, apocalyptic psychoanalysis, energy-sucking apparitions on the television, and lots more. Many people will dismiss this as schizoid ravings, but others will be intrigued by the linkages Joseph presents. It's up to you.

IMPRESSIONS FROM THE DITTO MASTERS #1 (508 Windermere Ave., Toronto, ONT M6S 3L6, CANADA): The first of what are planned to be three progress reports on Ditto, a convention for sfzine fans to be held in Toronto at the tail end of July 1988. To get on the mailing list, you merely have to join the convention: \$15 US to attend or \$5 US to become a supporting member and receive the publications. I couldn't resist reviewing this one, dittoed as it is and containing some snicker-worthy fanwriting from the perpetrators including Mike Glicksohn and Taral.

INCOHERENT #10 (\$50 cents & a stamp from Mitzi Waltz, 1445 Leavenworth #2, San Francisco, CA 94109): Though in places teetering on the edge of dot-matrix illegibility, this is a nice little pzfzine, with more care to the layout than usual. The contents are personal rather than ambitious, concentrating on shows that Mitzi got to and records that she or her friends liked. The zine opens with a fun interview with Vomit Launch and closes with everyone's favorite make-fun-of-Ollie poster.

INDUSTRIAL WORKER #1490 (\$1.50/6 months from IWW, 3435 N. Sheffield #202, Chicago, IL 60657): Tabloid paper of the Industrial Workers of the World, a union group that used to be much bigger than it is now, and a vital part of history that you ought to know about. Right now they concentrate on bringing you the labor news that doesn't make the front page, and pointing out how much better the workers would have it if only they would all get together and stop letting themselves be played off against one another by the capitalists.

THE INSIDER GUN NEWS Vol. 1 #8-10 (\$50/12 issues from The Gunpress Publishing Co., 443 Springvale Rd., Great Falls, VA 22066): Though it's only four pages long, I continue to be impressed by the wealth of information packed into this monthly. Editor John Aquilo has good sources in the NRA and continues to dig up all the dirt from that source, but it's the other odds and ends that fascinate me. #8, for example, reports on a side-effect of new tighter laws against automatic weapons: major action movies are having to film overseas, because they can't get enough prop guns in Hollywood any more.

INSIGHT Vol. 1 #5 (\$2 from OAL Research Publications Ltd., Cleanjohn House, 90, Ladipo St., Matori, PO Box 9802, Lagos, NIGERIA): "A magazine for spiritual development", this one contains a lot of esoteric writing not often encountered in

similar US journals, for the simple reason that they're closer to Muslim, tribal, and eastern sources. #5 revolves around the idea of sacrifice, arguing for self-submission as the only sacrifice pleasing to God. Side-trips include an introductory numerological article and a biography of Florence Nightengale.

INSTAURATION Vol. 12 #9 (\$3.75 from Howard Allen Enterprises, PO Box 76, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920): A slick little monthly for those who want to preserve the vanishing "Majority" Northern European white culture in America. Thanks to the typical American's preoccupation with race and religion, they always have plenty of mainstream news to comment on, although sometimes the stand seems to depend solely on the protagonist -- Ollie North is a hero, while Bernie Goetz is a creep, for example. Racists, but separatists rather than exterminationists.

IPPL NEWSLETTER Vol. 14 #2 (\$10/yr from PO Box 766, Sumterville, SC 29484): This is the publication of the International Primate Protection League, a group dedicated to keeping us from exploiting close evolutionary relatives. The focus in recent issues has been on the gorilla trade, and addresses are provided of various foreign dignitaries who ought to be written to. There's plenty of other news too, of the trade in chimps and gorillas and other primates around the world, and what activists are trying to do to stop it. This issue also includes an intriguing look at zoos in India, what's being done to upgrade them, and why they are necessary.

ISOLATION #3 (\$2.50 from Dolphin-Moon Press, PO Box 22262, Baltimore, MD 212203): A chapbook of drawings and short short stories from the likes of Margot, Nick Aumiller, Blaster Al Ackerman, James Taylor and other loonies. Loosely organized around the subtitle of "Dog", all the drawings are of canines (though some of them definitely are not man's best friend, being very toothsome, mechanical or otherwise strange) and the stories touch on dog-nature in one way or another. A stream of many consciousnesses.

ISSUE #69 12th Issue (\$1.25 from 1050 Foothill Blvd. #353, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401): This one always looks like a pzfzine, what with the cheap photocopy and the crammed layout, but actually it's a journal of leftist argument and propaganda. There's a batch of stuff here; some of it is activism, like the testimony from a Diabolo Canyon trespassing case, while other parts are more inscrutable, like the Phil Donahue transcript. The twelfth ish contained a free condom, though no "safe sex" propaganda. The editor cautions that he almost never has back issues, but that he will print almost any rant you care to send.

IT'S #2 (\$2 from The Easel (checks to Sheila Gibson), 20 Shady Lane, Nashua, NH 03062): A zine of Monty Python worship and cartoons. The latter at least are pretty well done, and even funny in spots. The Pythonmania gets out of hand in places, but then I suppose that's how the Python is supposed to work. There are various contests and silly questions and so on for the interested reader to participate in.

IT'S IT Sept. 1987 (\$5/yr from The Federation, PO Box 168, Vernon Hills, IL 60061): A small digest put out by a Doctor Who fan club. There's about a page of news here about upcoming plots and current production hassles, followed by several pages of in-jokes which are quite inscrutable. Other interests of the members apparently include Blake's Seven and The Prisoner.

IT'S ONLY A MOVIE (\$1.25 from Micahel Flores, 54 W. Randolph St. #606-E2, Chicago, IL 60601): The newsletter of the Psychotronic Film Society, a group dedicated to all that is cheesy and disgusting in the cinema and related fine arts like comic books and popular music. Ed Gein, Ilsa of the SS, and other lowlife art icons are their mainstays.

JAB #1-2 (25 cents & a stamp from The Farm, PO Box 85833, Seattle, WA 98145): A rather poorly-drawn minicomic that tries to jam entirely too much on one page, with inevitably eyestraining results. The storyline, such as it is, revolves around getting drunk and driving to see loud music in fast cars -- the youth culture, in other words. #2 is larger than a mini and not so terribly reduced, and seems to be a sort of artists' jam issue.

JAG Vol. 25 #7-9 (On request from 10 E. Charles, Oelwein, IA 50662): A broadsheet put out by R.S. Jaggard, MD. In #7 he declares his independence from the hospital system, noting darkly that hospital care is coming more and more under

control of the socialist, national government -- something which is anathema to his libertarian ideals. #8 has a nice list of lies told by our government, which serves as a counterpoint to present a Constitutionalist view of things.

JET LAG #78 (\$1.25 from 8419 Halls Ferry Rd., St. Louis, MO 63147): Well, I still like JL, even if they are so open-minded that their brains have fallen out of the back of their heads. The way I figure it, the picture of Big Audio Dynamite on the cover of #78 might con some poor mainstream sap into buying an issue, and then it's just possible that he'll see the coverage of Phantom Tollbooth or dB's or Gladiators inside. JL refuses to recognize a boundary between mainstream and underground music, which I think is what pisses off a lot of their critics.

JIMI Vol. 1 #10 (\$1 from PO Box 374, Des Plaines, IL 60016): Just because he's been dead for almost 20 years doesn't mean that there can't be a pzfanzine devoted to Jimi Hendrix. And this is it, put out by the Jimi Hendrix Information Management Institute. It's a collection of news, gossip, and photos, of Jimi or those who worked with him, backed up by a selection of used records and videos of the master guitarist himself, available for sale.

THE JOURNAL OF BORDERLAND RESEARCH Vol. XLIII #5 (\$20/yr from BSRF, PO Box 429, Garberville, CA 95440-0429): The Borderland Sciences Research Foundation operates well past the fringes of accepted science, and shows a remarkable willingness to challenge accepted knowledge. In #5 alone the prevailing theories of electromagnetism, superconductivity, and solar radiation are all denied by various writers. Of course, they don't present things in quite the mathematical detail that the physicists do, or tie their theories into the larger structure of science, but at least some sociologists would say this just means they're being ignored.

THE JOURNAL OF CHAOS AND GRAPHICS Vol. 1 (\$1 (?) from Clifford A. Pickover, IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598): Yes, this is for real, and quite appealing to all of us who eagerly follow the news of Life and the Mandelbrot Set and other graphics doohickeys in the pages of SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. Pickover publishes short contributions, with nifty drawings and algorithms, from about a dozen people. Better keep your envelopes normal-looking -- it's OK to confuse the PO, but I'd watch out for IBM.

JOURNAL OF QUANTUM PATAPHYSICS Vol. 1 #1 (\$25/Lifetime from Nigey Lennon Associates, PO Box 29756, Los Angeles, CA 90029): Well, I still don't know what pataphysics is, but this journal is, as proclaimed, an introduction to "The West that Never Was". Instead of writing about cowpokes and chili, these folks are talking about freeway shootings and the type of person who lives in the desert and new-age Messiahs and music and corporate influences on art and other concerns of the modern West. Welcome to the twentieth century. Nicely written essays and rants.

JOURNAL OF REGIONAL CRITICISM #? (\$1 (?) from Arjuna Library Press, 1025 Garner St. #18, Colorado Springs, CO 80905): I've ragged on this one pretty heavily in the past, but I sort of liked this issue, perhaps because it features a short story rather than alleged poetry written in mathematical notation. The story is "Aunt Ginnie's Magic Summer", by Els Sincebaugh, and it appears on the surface to be a simple tale of small-town America. But as editor Joseph Uphoff points out, there are levels to be plumbed here if one is fond of plumbing. Me, I'll take the primitivism.

JOURNAL OF THE SENSES #80 (\$1 from Elysium Institute, 814 Robinson Rd., Topanga, CA 90290): The EI is a naturist (i.e., nudist) resort that is currently battling the LA County Board of Supervisors to avoid being shut down over zoning hassles. This issue of JOTS is basically an update on the legal case, together with the extensive summer schedule of seminar, potlucks and other activities. There's also some reporting on past events at EI.

THE KANSAS INTELLIGENCER Vol. 1 #8 (\$12/yr from R.W. Clack, 5524 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502): A monthly conservative broadside, suitable for enraging liberals. In #8 Clack takes on the Liberal Movement, which he sees as committed to "social justice designed and implemented by strong central government." While I personally don't think he distinguishes enough opinions on the Left, or cares to analyze Marxism as separate from Leninism, he does have a point.

KAOS #8-9 (L1.25 from Joel Biroco, BCM Utopia, London, WC1N 3XX, ENGLAND): A journal composed mainly of letters for the amusement and attack of members of various occult fraternities in and around England. In quiet spots between the bickering, Joel and some cronies (notably Hakim Bey) are developing the theory of Chaos into a viable magickal alternative, or so I surmise. Some of this appears to be hellraising for hellraising's sake, but there's much the significance of which I just don't understand, as I'm not an Initiate of any sort. But it's a fascinating look at an oft-hidden subculture.

KIDS LIB NEWS #8 (\$1.50 from Oness Press, 1522 Orchard, Eugene, OR 97403): A zine of children's liberation, home education, natural childbirth and similar topics. The basic idea here is to create a loving family in which the kids are people too. Editor Mycall Sunanda crams as much as he can into a chaotic layout, bursting with ideas and reviews and drawings and leads to other sources of information. But write quickly if you want a copy; they seem to move about once a month.

KINDRED SPIRITS JOURNAL (\$5/yr from PO Box 542, Lewisburg, PA 17837): A bioregional tabloid that pulls together a lot of concerns under one umbrella. This is the "Conscious Politics" theme issue, with stories on animal rights and prison reform and nuclear free zones and bioregionalism and ageism and other problems. The whole is anchored by an extremely clever centerfold bulletin board, covered with notes and slogans and buttons and song lyrics. A well-done resource.

KOBWEBS ON THE KEYBOARD #2 (The Usual from Glen Crawford, PO Box 1, Avoca Beach, 2260 NSW, AUSTRALIA): A sfzine in the "perzine" mode, which basically means that Glen talks about whatever he wants and then turns the pages over to letter-writers. In #2 he discusses his childhood cat and the dangers of eating in public when one has small children.

Relaxed and comfortable but sort of slim.

THE KVINDE HADER KLUB #3 (15 cents & SASE from Herb Joe, 1811 Neck Rd., Brooklyn, NY 11229): A six-page zine of microscopically-small writing; Herb figures it's about as many words as 25-30 pages of your typical paperback. And it's all about music: records that he's listened to and shows that he's gone to, plus occasional asides like wondering whether it's worth trying to get major-label promos. Just at random I see GG Allin, the McGuires, Elvis Costello, Swanic Youth, Wednesday Week and The Saints in #3. Get a copy and a magnifying glass.

LAB WATCH (\$15/yr from PO Box 11635, Oakland, CA 94611): "Monitoring the weapons labs" is the point of this publication. Very little editorializing, just facts and figures and maps and photos of the places where atom bombs are made in this country, together with news on their effects on people and other living things. Nice graphics and documented information.

LA LANGOUSTE (IRC's from Model-Peltex, 3 Rue des Couples, 67000 Strasbourg, FRANCE): Written in French, so I can't read it without laborious resort to a dictionary. It appears to be, though, a sort of review-zine, with short discussions of and contact addresses for a couple of dozen mail artists, zines, and record labels, chiefly European.

THE LAME MONKEY MANIFESTO Vol. 1 #5 (\$1 from PO Box 8763, Knoxville, TN 37996-4800): It's a relief to see a college tabloid that's supported by neither the administration or Joe Coors. Yes, this is an underground paper, and though they do publish some miscellaneous humor and stories, they also publish the sort of things that made undergrounds great: thinks like unofficial class evaluations and ideas of screwing up the parking ticket system. This could almost make going to the U of Tennessee bearable.

LES RENDEZ-VOUS DE LA MORT AVEUGLE (30 francs from Philippe Pissier, 23 Avenue de la Premiere Armee Francaise, 95160 Montmorency, FRANCE): A collection of collages featuring women in bondage shots, sharks and frogs, dead rats, Tarot cards, and gratuitous violence. The odds are against this having any redeeming social value even if you take the time to translate the intro.

LGLC NEWSLETTER #19-20 (\$1 from 1800 Market St. #210, San Francisco, CA 94102): This one has recently switched editors but not direction, continuing its vocal demands for homosexual rights via tearing down excessive government. #19 moves from government criticism to movement criticism, with a searching look at Ayn Rand's homophobia and its long-range consequences

for Libertarians. #20 concentrates on AIDS, with a number of hard-hitting articles opposing restrictions on civil liberties for those afflicted.

LIBERTARIAN FAMILIST Vol. 6 #4-5 (On Request from 5324 Sun Valley Dr., El Paso, TX 79924): Newsletter of the Familist Movement, a group headed by Bob Krel. They believe in reducing the state and letting the natural order of the family take care of things. #4 is a meandering essay by Krel discussing recent sociological works on the history of the family and getting in some swipes at the anarchists on the side. #5 contains a bunch of reprints, including an interesting article on anarcho-capitalism in the Old West, arguing that peaceable solutions prevailed (and overlooking the vigilantes).

LIBERTARIAN LABOR REVIEW #3 (\$2.50 from PO Box 2824, Stn. A, Champaign, IL 61801): "A Journal of Anarcho-Syndicalist Ideas & Discussion", LLR presents an extremely broad view of revolutionary unionism today, not just in the US but internationally. Articles range from reports on unionism in specific areas to book reviews to historical looks at anarcho-syndicalism for the uninitiated. There's some cliquish infighting going on in these pages, but not much, and the optimism that comes of a commitment to change via hard work.

THE LIBERTY REPORT July-Sept. 1987 (2020 Tate Springs Rd., Lynchburg, VA 24501): Eagle-eyed readers will have already concluded from the return address that this is the tabloid of the Moral Majority, and they'd be right. Apparently available for a sweet request, it talks in horrified terms of the breakdown of the American family, and what can be done to stop it — namely, a return to the Middle Ages. With four-color printing, it must cost them a fair chunk of a buck to print and mail one of these, even if they are soaking their supermarket-tabloid style advertisers.

LIFE ON PLANET CLAIRE #6 (SASE from PO Box 85807, Seattle, WA 98145): A single sheet of satire and social change. #6 includes some guides to living wisely, a screed directed against smokers ("You REEK!"), deathcounts for major disasters this year, and thoughts on what a world with enough to go around would be like. And, as always, it features a "Fat Mike" comic strip.

LIGHT IN THE BUSHES #5 (\$1 or The Usual from Richard Brandt, 4740 N. Mesa #111, El Paso, TX 79912): Richard adequately captures the feel of fanzine fandom in this issue, with about equal parts (overly-) clever repartee and name-dropping, mixed with a bit of serious politicking. Sffandom is a fascinating subculture; you can be lauded for telling cleverly of someone throwing up. Still, I like this zine, since Richard writes engagingly. And if things had gone differently I might have been one of the names to drop.

LIME #1 (50 cents from Jeff Curtis, PO Box 6643, Cleveland, OH 44101): "Intense and Dense, no Pretense", says their promotional postcard. LIME is sort of a literary and artistic acid trip, starting off with an innocent cafeteria cashier thinking privately and ending up with violins and drawings of squirming Things and psychotic ravings. Maybe it wasn't all meant to be one story, but it looks that way to me.

LIME GREEN BULLDOZERS #3 (2 stamps "and any spare change affordable" from Lainie, 723 N. Highland Ave., Arlington Hts, IL 60004): A zine of sharing thoughts through story fragments, drawings, and (mostly) poetry. A lot of rebellion and anxiety is encompassed in these pages, along with pleas to write and communicate. Sincerity on paper.

LITERARY MARKETS #35 (\$12/yr from Bill Marles, PO Drawer 1310, Point Roberts, WA 98281): A bimonthly newsletter of

places to send your poems, short stories, and artwork. Most of the listings pay in copies, but a few paying markets are listed as well. In #35 Bill offers to help subscribers who are having problems getting what they've ordered.

LITTLE FREE PRESS #61 (From Rt. 2 Box 38C, Cushing, MN 56443): To get on Ernest Mann's mailing list, just drop him a card promising to make and distribute two copies of everything he sends. This pamphlet is titled "Changing Games" and is devoted to explaining how Ernest and his friends are right now trying to institute the Priceless Economic System, wherein we all start working for free and getting what we need for free. He argues for change by example, and predicts near-utopian benefits from the PEC.

THE LITTLE RHINO GAZETTE #8 (\$2 from Underground Publications, PO Box 14139, Arlington, TX 76094-1139): A zine that wanders all over the alternative scene in search of fun stuff to write about. The top billing here goes to the couple of pages about the Cure and their music. And there are other music items and reviews. But there are also short bits of poetry and short stories, zine reviews, and a page of news of interest to the underground. One longish article gives the facts on the inaccuracies of drug testing. A lot in a little package.

THE LITTLEST UNICORN Vol. 3 #7 (\$7/yr from The Rowan Tree Church, PO Box 8814, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A pagan zine for the under-twelve set, full of nature pictures, simple herbalism, and stories of unicorns, dragons, and other faerie critters.

LIVELY ARTS #9 (\$2 (?) from PO Box 4906, San Diego, CA 92104): The LA staff seems to manage interviews with all the big names that pass through town. Just a few of the groups in #9: Concrete Blonde, Fuztones, Captain Sensible, Redd Kross, The Dickies, Meat Puppets, and New Model Army. There are lots of great photos and the whole is printed on lots of different paper colors. If I have a complaint, it's only a minor disagreement with the drunken sexist teenage mentality behind most of the questions — but that's not going to bother most people interested in the music.

LIVING FREE #40-41 (\$1.50 from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): Jim continues to disseminate information on living without the government from whoever cares to send it in. Strategies tend to involve self-reliance and living in the outback; it's not far from here to BTTL. In #40 a couple of people speculate on the possibilities for secure communication between isolated activists and dropouts. #41 reprints the last known letter

the very last POPULAR REALITY!



The zine that fucks
with your mind
'til you come
to your senses.

48 pages!
cure for aids!
obtaining fake i.d!
my date with
david crowbar!
vicious letters section!
find the page
reprinted from the
revolutionary worker!

\$3.50
from popular reality
p.o. box 3402,
ann arbor, mi. 48106.

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE
DON'T BLOW IT

from early vonu-ist Rayo and more about air-powered cars (which he is quite skeptical about).

THE LLEWELLYN NEW TIMES #873-875 (\$1 from PO Box 64383, St. Paul, MN 55164-0383): This 80-page bimonthly is essentially a catalog of Llewellyn Publications' books (and videotapes, personal services, cassettes, computer software, gemstones, and other magickal whatnot). So most of the content is ads and book reviews, but there are also a few other sections, like Q&A columns run by various New Age or Magick authors. Their prices are fine, so if you're into Enochian magic or Tarot of Qabala or whatever, check it out.

LOAFING THE DONKEY #5 (\$1.25 from Peter Mantis, 12749 Kilbourne, Detroit, MI 48213): "The fanzine for alternative cinema/music", but the issues I've seen are more heavily into the alternative cinema. By this they mean B movies and experimental flicks, not the usual sleazy gore that is the fascination of most video hounds these days. Similarly, the music interest is slightly more mainstream than usual; #5 mentions X and Elvis.

THE LOG CABIN #90 (\$1 from Louisa Poulin, HC 38 Box 1178, Winchester, VA 22601): A Mensa Special Interest Group publication, this one for BTTLers. It's a chatty place, filled with observations on the height of the corn and the hatching of the chickens, and with practical advice on nearly any problem right around the corner. Special kudos to Kim Walker-Daniels for the series on BTTLin' the City.

LOMAKATSI #2 (\$9/yr from Box 633, 1377 K St. NW, Washington, DC 20005): An animal liberation magazine that differs from the pack by taking a hard anarchist look at the animal liberation movement itself. Thus, the authors here criticize the pop-culture advertising stance of many groups and the lack of thought behind such slogans as "Meat is Murder". They also present the usual array of facts on animal mistreatment in factory farming, the cosmetic industry, and so on, but they moderate this with thoughtful discussion of philosophy and politics. Direct action is also showcased.

LOOKOUT! #27-28 (\$1 from Lawrence Livermore, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Mendocino County's residential troublemaker is back from his vacation and in prime form. Along with international radical news and coverage of the Bay Area music scene, he indulges in some wicked humor. Among the best examples is the piece on the "Harmonica Convergence" in #27, which I only wish I had gotten in time to reprint before the event. #28 looks back at the hippie movement and interviews ex-hippie Tim Yohannon.

LOSING FAITH #3 (\$2 from PO Box 10533, Minneapolis, MN 55428): A collage and comic book for those with no faith left. Having no faith, they feel free to offend, and this is a collection of scatological jokes, pornographic pictures, stories about vomiting, and other cheerful stuff. The art is executed with loving care, but you won't want to hang it up in your living room. Fascinatingly disgusting, like picking scabs.

LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR #5 (\$1 (?) from WFMU 91.1 FM, Upsala College, East Orange, NJ 07019): A college radio magazine that is much, much more than a program guide. The graphics alone would elevate it out of the ho-hum class even without the thoughtful editorial on FCC policies, the SubGenius rant, the letter column, and other pieces. Perhaps this is the radio analogue of cyberpunk -- they have a somewhat apocalyptic vision of the future of the medium.

THE MAD ENGINEER #8 (75 cents from Mary Hagan, 3333 E. Rorer Rd., Bloomington, IN 47401): A science fiction zine that concentrates first on the science and then on the fiction. There are bits about volcano research and the history of technology culled from the popular science literature, strange drawings, a short story and even a review of a Hugo nominee. Pleasant though a bit skinny.

MAGIC BULLET 3:5 (39 cent SASE from 169 W. Huntingdon St., Philadelphia, PA 19133): An eclectic collection of short stories, poetry, drawings and computer graphics that is playing around with the conventions of literary culture. Contents range from surrealistic stories of future wars to an excruciating detailing of the act of eating White Castle hamburgers. Nicely printed -- an enigma for your coffee table.

MALLIFE 13/14 (\$5 from Bomb Shelter Propaganda, PO Box 12268, Seattle, WA 98102): A special double issue of one of the larger mail art & collage zines. Titled the "Fiction and Non Issue", this one actually has a lot more text and less graphics than usual -- then again, there are plenty of pieces that blur the distinction. Relatively famous names are sprinkled through the pages like raisins: Jake Berry, Al Ackerman, Hakim Bey, Bob Black, Don Webb and plenty more. It's all printed on heavy-duty paper and will keep you scratching your head for days before the men in white coats come to take you away.

MANAS Vol. XL #36 (30 cents from PO Box 32112, El Serena Stn., Los Angeles, CA 90032): A weekly journal "of independent inquiry", devoted to looking for principles that may support a future ethical society. They reprint and discuss thoughts from such diverse thinkers as Maslow and Toynbee, plus many more I've never heard of. Humanistic musings.

MANZINE #5 (50 cents (?) from Function Industries Press, PO Box 9915, Seattle, WA 98109): Publisher Frank Function continues his somewhat sardonic looks at the media sea surrounding us in this mini-zine. #5 features a rambling selection of press reactions to Ollie North and ads for half a dozen or so clairvoyants who can reveal the truth for a few bucks.

MARGINAL PESS PROJECT #1 (SASE from Eric Sinclair, 200 Park Place, College Station, tx 77840): I don't know where he

Peculiar Printing for Particular People or is that... Anyway, all jobs considered but poetry and newsprint are what I do best. Joe M Singer, Mother of Ashes Press, P.O. Box 135, Harrison Idaho 83833-0135. Or read The Printer's Devil and do-it-yourself for less. Sample copy on request, exchange appreciated.



intends to go with this, but the first issue is "An Introduction - Various Preliminary Sources and Field Guides", and it's essentially a very specialized bibliography, albeit one that many FF readers will want to own. Eric is interested in tracking the marginal press, and he's gathered a listing of fifteen or twenty articles on the phenomenon, together with places to go for more information. Recommended, and the price can't be beat.

MAYDAY! #1 (\$1/yr from Denise Unora, 1459 W. Foster, Chicago, IL 60640): This is the fledgling "Continental Newsletter for the Anarchist Movement", an outgrowth of the June gathering in Minneapolis. It's designed as a place for local groups to communicate with other local groups, without censorship or decisions between news items. So far, it's worked; the question is what will happen when differences within the movement start cropping up. But at least it's healthier than SRAF for the moment.

MELODY #1 (\$2 from Jacques Boivin, PO Box 219, Delorimier Stn., Montreal, Que. H2H 2N6 CANADA): A 48 page minicomic "Autobiography of a Nude Dancer". Although one would think that left plenty of room for story and character development, it's mainly devoted to incident, and, of course, nude drawings. As far as one can tell, she didn't want to do this, but her boyfriend told her to, and so it happened. The art is sort of deliberately primitive, and everyone looks young and asian. Of mild interest.

MEMO TO MAILERS Vol. 22 #9 (On request from USPS, PO Box 999, Springfield, VA 22150-0999): The Postal Service's way to communicate with us business mailers. They announce new services, discuss how the PO works, give the lowdown on other publications of interest, and plug the services they can give to the big companies. Mostly this is not for the small press, but there's an occasional useful hint, and it's free. Tell 'em you have a bulk mail permit or something when you write.

MEN TALK Vol. 11 #6 (\$2 from The Men's Center, 3255 S. Hennepin Ave. #45, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A journal based on the premise that the New Man needs a support group in this society as much as the New Woman. The Men's Center is an active group, hosting support groups and workshops most every night of the week, and providing plenty of folks to write sensitive articles for this zine. Much space is devoted to upcoming events, but there are also thoughts on dealing with oneself and other people. Helpful for those days when you just feel like crap.

MESSAGE FROM THE GUTTER #1 (3 DM from Thomas Kahl, Erlengeweisenstr. 10, 7334 Suessen, WEST GERMANY): A nice fat pzfanzine that, unfortunately for me, is 99.9% written in German. Includes lots of photos, record reviews, a US tour report, and interviews with Cancerous Growth, No Fraud, Slaughter, and lots more US and European groups.

METAL MELTDOWN #1 (\$1 from Jeff Venderclute, PO Box 824, Severna Park, MD 21146-0824): This pzfanzine gains instant genre credibility by opening its first issue with a Megadeth interview. In fact, almost the whole first ish is interviews, with Trouble and Overkill being among them.

META-SCOOP Vol. IV #9/10 (\$10/yr from 1004 Live Oak #101, Arlington, TX 76012): A small digest on the fringes of science and metaphysics. They don't swallow everything from the New Age uncritically, but they are willing to give space to everything from Bell's Theorem to the Omega Point. #9/10 also includes some thoughts on the New Christian Right and a long review of INSIGHT magazine. M-S now includes a calendar of events in the Arlington area as well.

THE MIGHTY INSECT #6-7 (39-cents stamps from Roy Tompkins, PO Box 16022, Austin, TX 78761): A quickie comic that seems to have no relation to its name. The 8 digest-sized pages in #6 tell the story of Doktor Ramada, a veterinarian of the people, and his attempt to keep some bad folks under control. Drawn in a spacey, drug-addled fashion, but it still retains a plot, so the artist can't be too far gone. #7 is a collection of art from notorious deranged people including Bob Xex and AC Samish.

MIND BLOWN #3 (50 cents (?) from 3108 Ridgeway Ave., West Palm Beach, FL 33405): A zine by and for skaters. Features lots and lots of photos of young men on skateboards, generally flying through the air in one contorted position or another. Hints on where to skate in Florida, and interviews with punk bands in the hardcore/drunkcore genre. Enthusiastic but specialized.

MIND THEATRE 9 (\$2.50 from PO Box 1408, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT N6A 5M2, CANADA): Well, this is sort of like a comic book, only it has a lot more words and even a few photos along with the drawings. The backbone of the whole production (at least for me) is Lenn Rant's continuing "The Way of T.A.O." comic, a futuristic romp reminiscent of RA Wilson's writing. But there are also one-panel drawings with thoughts on relationships, stuff making fun of work, and other liberatory or anarchistic pieces. Definitely subversive and very interesting indeed.

THE MINNESOTA SPECTATOR Vol. 1 #2 (\$10/yr from Minnesota Alternative Press, PO Box 13651, Dinkytown Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55414): A new campus conservative newspaper, still struggling for enough money to print and without the slick graphic design that graces most other such rags. Articles in this issue cover such things as the influence of "loony-left" professors on the campus and the Honeywell Project, as well as more general conservative causes.

MISSING PERSONS #0 (\$2 & age statement from Joe Schwind, PO Box 3187, SM, KS 66208): The age statement is purely CYA, because there's only a few nudie pics and vaguely suggestive prose in this collage publication. On the other hand, the behind-the-scenes message of these colorful pages definitely has something to do with obsessive, fetishistic sex -- though what, I hesitate to say. High-priced art with a subliminal and possibly sinister purpose.

MONDO HOWIE 2 (74 cents from No Way Comix, 332 Atlanta Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15228-1125): A minicomic featuring Howie, man of a million hats. This one is a comics jam, with interpretations of the schmuck-ish Howie by half a dozen artists including R.K. Sloane and T. Kevin Atherton.

THE MONITOR #7-8 (\$15/yr from Center for Democratic Renewal, PO Box 10500, Atlanta, GA 30310): The CDR is the successor organization to the National Anti-Klan Network. This newsletter keeps the rest of us posted about their activities in defense of civil rights as well as the general state of the white supremacist movement in the United States. They publish a lot of straightforward no-nonsense reportage on the activities of groups like the various Klans, the Posse Comitatus, and the Identity Christians. A good source for current news without a sugar coating or scare tactics. #8 has the lowdown on the Aryan Youth Movement and related groups.

MONITORING TIMES Vol. 6 #7 (\$15/yr from PO Box 98, Brasstown, NC 28902): A tabloid for the shortwave radio enthusiast. They cater to all sorts of oddball tastes: tuning in on satellites, monitoring police, fire and other operations, looking for pirate stations, or just finding Radio Cairo. Lots of schedules and frequency information and a handful of technical articles. The level of writing ranges from beginning how-to stuff (even how to tune your radio) to rather advanced analytical articles.

MONKEY'S UNCLE! #4 (\$6 from E.T. Babinski, 224 Parliament Dr., Greenville, SC 29615): Ed is trying to get Fundamentalists and rationalists involved in a dialogue instead of mudslinging; MU is the zine he uses to present various thematic material. This time around it's about 40 pages of "Fun with Fundamentalism", highlighted by stories from former Fundies who unsaw the light and became critical people again. Also includes historical looks at cheery people like Calvin and Luther and various nasty quotes about Biblical infallibility.

MOONCIRCLES Vol. 2 #9 (SASE (?) from Nan Hawthorne, PO Box 28621, Seattle, WA 98118): Apparently the administrative newsletter of Circles of Exchange, a group run by Nan to sponsor round-robin letters among pagans. There are nearly thirty round-robins circulating. This newsletter is two pages long and reports on what's happening with some reprints and general notes.

THE MOORISH SCIENCE MONITOR Vol. II #7 (\$2 from Verlag Golem, PO Box 3414, Providence, RI 02906): A zine of spirituality, revolution, and other bumpf. #7 is the special "L'Amour Moor" issue, featuring love poetry directed to young boys and other things disliked by the Immoral Minority.

MURDER CAN BE FUN #7 (\$1 CASH/2 issues from Johnny Marr, PO Box 640111, San Francisco, CA 94109): This special "I Hate Sports" issue is a real treat for all of us scrawny kids. Now we can point to the real dangers and idiocies of such stupid pastimes. Johnny discusses the 1919 Chicago Black Sox scandal (fixing the World Series), a

couple of folks who have given their all and died for their sports, and some current research on the sociology of sports. Features a lovely centerfold photo of the Brussels soccer riot.

MUSIC NEWS FROM PRAGUE 2/3 (On Request (?) from Music Information Center, Czech Music Fund, 118 00 Prague 1, Besedni 3, CZECHOSLOVAKIA): This is serious stuff, printed via letterpress in English for some reason. It concerns the activities of groups like the Union of Czech Composers and Artists -- this is music in the classical sense, not in the rock sense. Dense thickets of articles about prominent composers and performers alternate with short reviews of recent Czech recordings. It says you can get on the mailing list just by writing. Maybe it's state-supported.

THE MYSTERY FANCIER Vol. 9 #3 (\$3 from Guy M. Townsend, 407 Jefferson St., Madison, IN 47250): A magazine for the lover of mysteries, this one is not a review of the current crop but rather a home for more scholarly articles and reminiscences. The highlight of #3 is the long article from Maryell Cleary about "Contemporary Clerical Detectives", giving overviews of ten different series. Frank Floyd looks at the year's crop of short stories and obituaries; Walter Albert examines mystery films.

NAP TIME Vol. 2 #2/3 (\$3 from PO Box 484, Groton, MA 01450): Journal of the National Alliance of Pantheists, a relatively new neo-Pagan group. They've been spending a lot of space on administrative details like non-profit status, tax exemption, and organizing local chapters, to the unfortunate neglect of ritual and philosophy. But there's still some interesting news in #2/3; the continuing struggle to establish a coven in a Maine prison is the high point.

THE NATIONAL BOYCOTT NEWSLETTER Summer 1987 (\$5/yr from 6506 28th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115): A tabloid which brings us news of boycotts called by all sorts of labor, consumers, animal-rights activists, and others. They are carefully non-judgemental, listing the reasons for each boycott, the calling organization, the products involved, and giving the companies a chance to respond. The Summer issue is a fat 40-page newspaper filled with useful and instructive information.

THE NATURALIST Vol. III #2 (\$25/4 issues from Garry De Young, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252): Gary is as iconoclastic about the environment as everything else, and his own opinions are what go into this small digest, come hell or high water. So it is that he argues in favor of pesticides and fighting forest fires, in between practical garden advice and tidbits on his own health. Overpriced, but available for trades.

N D 9 (\$2 from PO Box 4144, Austin, TX 78765): An essential guide to mail art, performance art, cutting-edge music, and other manifestations of the artistic underground. N D is unique in that rather than just publicizing the art it concentrates on interviewing the artists. #9 includes talks with Lon Spiegelman, Ryosuke Cohen, Pierre Perret and half a dozen mail artists from behind the iron curtain, mainly in Yugoslavia. It's all put together with announcements of upcoming shows and reviews of past projects, as well as some intriguing art in its own right. If you're at all interested in non-commercial, participatory art, you must buy this at once.

NEIGHBORHOOD CARETAKER Summer 1987 (\$25/yr from 3038 Fall Creek Pkwy N., Indianapolis, IN 46205): These people claim to be "Converging science, art, and vocation" in search of better neighborhood health. Even after reading a couple of issues I have no clear idea what this means, but it seems to depend on a mix of holism and local mutual aid. The magazine is in the form of reports on forward-looking projects carried out by readers.

NEOLOGY Vol. 12 #3-4 (\$1 from ESFACAS, Box 4071 PSSE, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 4S8, CANADA): A sfzine from the organized sfen in Edmonton, featuring nifty mimeography and wide-ranging contents. #3 includes in-depth fanzine reviews, the Statement of Principles of the Canadian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Imaginary Animals, and an extensive international lettercol. ESFACAS also has a continuing pipeline into Soviet SFandom, in the person of Boris Zavgorodny and his articles from over there. #4 includes a column from some naif who's just discovered that sfandom is at least as sexist as the real world.

NEW ENVIRONMENT BULLETIN #145 (\$5.00 from 270 Fenway Dr., Syracuse, NY 13224): The New Environment Association is a group of people sharing a decentralized, ecologically-sound, smaller-scale vision of the future, who wish to work towards this vision. They've set themselves a reasonable goal -- to be setting an example in communities within 20 years -- and are working towards it. The newsletter has just experienced a change in editorship and doesn't seem to be quite on its feet yet; but there are still several good leads in the network of communitarian activists in this issue.

NEW HOPE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW SUPPLEMENT (\$1 from 23 Gambrel Bank Road, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 8TW, ENGLAND): A review of poetry quite reminiscent of early issues of FF. Gerald England writes concise reviews of some 75 or so poetic books and magazines, with ordering information for each. Most are located in the UK, but there are a few US publications in the pot.

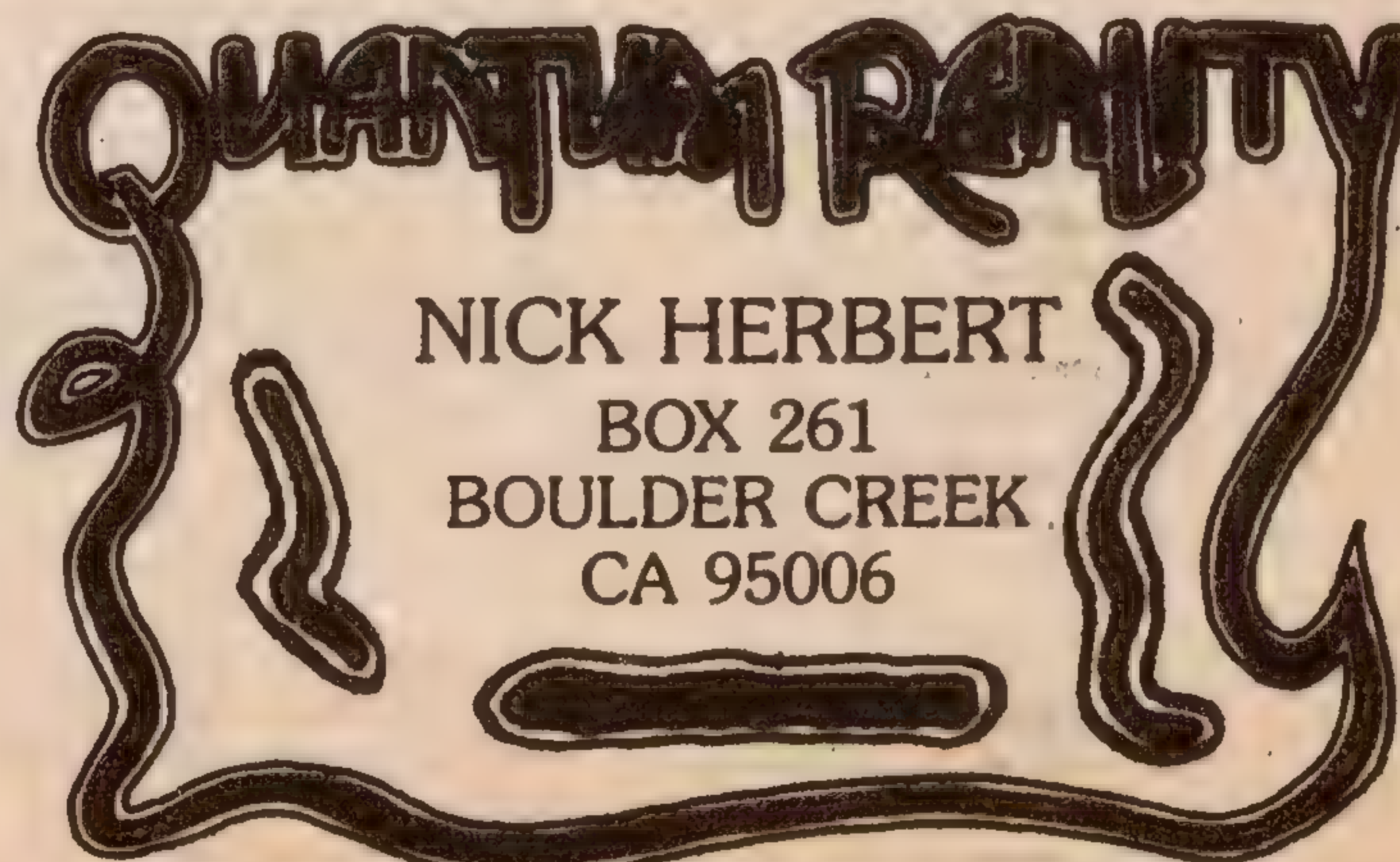
THE NEW MUSIC INFORMER #8 (\$4/6 issues from Chris Murtland, 3514 Millhaven Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27106): A growing pfanzine that really does concentrate on new, but not necessarily underground, music. So it is that they have REM and Beatnik Beatch in the same issue, along with Ray Mason, Hoodoo Gurus, and more. Mostly one to two page interviews and reviews.

NEW PLAYS & PLAYWRIGHTS Vol. 1 #9-#10 (\$1 (?) from PO Box 14524, Chicago, IL 60614): This one is getting larger and more impressive with every issue, and is crammed with news on the Midwest theatre scene. Aimed at newcomers, it also directs playwrights and associated craftsmen to sources of inspiration or advice, and talks to respected members of the scene, playwrights and otherwise.

NEWS FROM THE MOTHER GROVE Aug. 1987 (\$1 (?) from Ar nDraiocht Fein, PO Box 9398, Berkeley, CA 94709-9398): This is the administrative newsletter of PEI Bonewits' "Druid Fellowship". They're a lot more organized than most neopagan groups, with a Board of Trustees and written rules, and lots of limitations on members and clergy. I'm sure there must be a fun side to all of this, but it doesn't show up in this newsletter.

NEW UNIONIST #124-125 (\$3/10 issues from 621 W. Lake St. #210, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A straightforward tabloid from the New Union Party, a group that believes in the "one big union" concept as a way to promote worker solidarity and pressure the ruling class. #124 includes their analysis of Contragate, titled "Ruling Class Thwarts Right Wing's Military Clique." #125 calls for a rewrite to the Constitution to carry out their dreams of economic equality, in the spirit of the Founding Fathers.

NEW YORK SURVIVAL GUIDE 7/27/87 - 10/5/87 (\$2 from PO Box 1072, Canal St. Stn., New York, NY 10013): Make sure you send along a note saying you're over 18, as these guys idea of how to survive involves a lot of sex and drugs and occasional bits of explosives. Reviews of drugs, porno palaces and movies rub, er, elbows, with special features. The July 27 issue includes "Helpful Hints for Buying Heroin" while the 8/24 ish begins a discussion of MDMA abuse. This continues in the 9/7 issue with instructions on shooting MDMA. 10/5 they discuss which brands of candy are best for killing the taste of snorted heroin.



THE NIGHTMARE EXPRESS Vol. 1 #6 (\$1.50 from Donald L. Miller, 262 Sherburne #2, St. Paul, MN 55103): A rather specialized little newsletter, this one is aimed at beginning writers of horror and supernatural fiction. It's very well done, with the emphasis on getting ideas, better writing, and market news. Particularly fun is Annette Crouch's "THE WRITE TRACK" column, which takes a very short story and critiques it in detail.

NO 7 (\$2 from Brad Johnson, 3205 N. Clark St. #405, Chicago, IL 60657): This issue of this digest-sized litmag is loosely organized around the theme of "Romantic", though how you get from there to masturbation techniques or youthful runaways I'm not sure. But there are plenty of stories and poems dealing with love and sex here, and I suppose that's as close as one can expect to come nowadays. There's a wide mix represented, about 35 writers, so you'll probably find something that speaks to you, as well as a good deal that doesn't. Being somewhat crude myself, I enjoyed Brad's story of the oranges and carrots that got somewhat sticky before being sold.

THE NOCTURNAL LYRIC #1 (\$1.25 from Harmony, PO Box 2602, Pasadena, CA 91102-2602): A high price for an 8-page copied zine, but they say it's just to cover costs. This is a new forum for creative writing of all types. The first issue includes a page from a longer story by Susan Ackerman, poetry from the editor and others, and a one-page play, as well as a few drawings. Nothing grabbed me other than the sincerity behind the project.

THE NOISE #64-66 (\$8/yr from 74 Jamaica St., J.P., Boston, MA 02130): This long-lived Boston pzfanzine is still going strong and still has the unique local flavor that makes it fun to read even if the gossip is threatening to take over the entire publication. #64 is devoted mainly to coverage of the WBCN-sponsored "Rock and Roll Rumble" playoff of the best unsigned bands in town. The big shocker is the switch to newsprint in #65, which includes a selection of Rocco's cheesecake pics. #66 interviews WBCN's fabled Oedipus and plugs Throwing Muses again.

NOMADIC UNDERGROUND #6 (\$1 from Brad Sigal, 1900 F. St. NW #532, Washington, DC 20006): Brad left Atlanta with a bang, gracing this issue with a longish scene report, some reminiscences, and interviews with 7 Seconds, MIA, Doughboys and Justice League. He also manages a pile of zine and music reviews, mainly somewhere around the punk-thrash-hardcore axis. Also includes a plug for animal rights and some cool cover art.

NOMOS Vol. 5 #4 (\$3 from 727 S. Dearborn #212, Chicago, IL 60605): This Libertarian journal has survived the departure of its founding editors with a bit of retrenchment — notably economies in printing and a lower standard of graphic design. The articles still plug for a rational approach to liberty and gleefully examine all sides of the question. In #4, for example, Carol Low talks about abortion rights and Fred Foldvary discusses the weak foundations of Objectivism. Peter Boettke also starts a new series on great Libertarian economists with a look at the work of Ludwig von Mises.

NON-STOP BANTER #13 (\$1.50 from Debbie Novak, 16700 S. 94th Ave., Orland Park, IL 60462): NSB has paid its dues and it's now safe to say that it's in the first rank of pfanzines. Oddly enough, the standout feature here is the record reviews. NSB has every record done by three staffers, and then the opinions are collected to give an in-depth picture of the music and why one should like it. They also spotlight a few pfanzines in depth every issue, and of course talk to bands — #13 has Killdozer, Butthole Surfers, and Angry Red Planet, as well as a special article on Chicago-area record labels.

THE NONVIOLENT ACTIVIST Vol. 4 #6 (\$1 from War Resisters League, 339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012): A small newsprint zine dedicated to peace and activism. There's more than just narrow anti-war protests here; the WRL is working on issues such as homelessness, gay and lesbian rights, and international solidarity. #6 includes an inspirational account of a visit to independent peace groups in Poland and the USSR; if they can do it, what excuses do we have for not speaking out?

NOOK NEWS Vol. 3 #2-3 (\$2 from Eugene Ortiz, 10957 Chardon Rd., Chardon, OH 44024-9752): Another publication aimed at beginning writers. It's an odd mix: expensive slick paper directed at beginners, advice on selling book reviews to major markets next to the most minor of minor markets. A

lot of positive thinking, a few possible sales spots, and an offer to sell how-to books to the beginning writer. Eugene's goal is to get far enough ahead on this to establish a sort of drop-in center for struggling writers.

NORTH COUNTRY ANVIL #54 (\$2 from PO Box 37, Millville, MN 55957): "A Call to Simple Living" is the subtitle here, and it's a call that comes deep from the heart. Editor Jack Miller and his writers put together 40+ pages of quiet, sincere writing on the virtues of country living and the insanity of the rat race, filled out with poetry and articles about some of those who have already made the transition. A product of long hard realistic thought about the future.

NORTHERN SUN NEWS Vol. 10 #7-8 (\$10/yr from 1519 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404): Originally strictly an anti-nuke forum, this tabloid is now ten years old and has branched out into all sorts of activism. #7 includes plenty of dirt on the Contragate hearings, a report on the June anarchist gathering, and more Big Mountain news. #8 gets back to the anti-nuke roots of the paper, with a lot of news on activists being sentenced and tried as well as plans for the future.

THE NOTE May-Oct. 1987 (\$9.95/yr from 410 S. Commerce, Wichita, KS 67202): Free locally, this monthly tabloid is aimed at people whose acquaintance with music is pretty well limited to mainstream rock, with maybe a little Echo and the Bunnymen thrown in now and then. Oh, sure, there are scene reports, but somehow they get washed out amid the major-radio station sponsor hype. On the other hand, they do a lot of good articles on stuff like safe sex and drug testing and rockers' rights, so it's not a total loss. Just don't expect the on-the-edge atmosphere of your favorite hardcore zine.

NOTEBOOK: A LITTLE MAGAZINE Vol. 3 #1 (\$4 from PO Box 26B43, Los Angeles, CA 90026): A literary journal which focuses on the work of Latino-American writers, though their pages are open to all, especially other American minorities. Much of the content here is poetry, but there are also short stories and reviews, some self-consciously ethnic, most not. The overall tone is sort of wistful, with a concentration on savoring the past, good and bad.

NOTES FROM OBLIVION #17-18 (75 cents from Jay Harber, 626 Paddock Ln., Libertyville, IL 60048-3733): This one is getting a bit scary. Jay is suffering from some obscure eye disease and increasing sensitivities to various chemicals in our environment, and the doctors don't seem to be helping, and he's ranting more and more. Well, after six years of this nonsense I'd be ranting too. Anyhow, in #17 he's on about his current mental state and renews his plea for more personal correspondences, preferably on tape. In #18 he sounds like a man at the end of his rope, and tries to convey to the reader a sense of what it's like to live in a painful fog.

NUMISMATIC NEWS Oct. 1987 (\$23/yr from 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990): Another of Krause Publications hobby tabloids, and I think the oldest one. This fascinating 35th anniversary issue includes an article tracing the growth of KP from a dining-room table to a building full of staffers — there's hope for the small press yet. As for the zine at hand, it looks like an excellent way to keep track of both current coin news and prices for existing coins, with the expected large crop of dealer ads.

OAK SQUARE Spring-Summer 1987 (\$5 from PO Box 1238, Allston, MA 02134): When some people do a double issue they do it right. This is 72 pages of high-quality writing, illustrated by mainly enigmatic photos. Standout stories include Pagan Kennedy's enigmatic "America's Great Highways" and the excerpt from J. Drew Yanno's "1969-1970". The one that affected me most, though, was Norman R. Allen's "Johnny on the Beach", a tale of pointless life and suicide with an unexpected ending, or rather lack thereof.

OBLIO (SASE (?) from 1931 E. Eighth St., Davis, CA 95616): A little collection of art and silliness from the middle of California. There are odd postmodern collages, thoughts on feeling feelings, a comic strip recounting an incredible event, and an offer of Rocks From Versailles. Creativity without focus.

ODDITIES 7 (\$2 CASH/STAMPS from Roman Scott, 39330 Idleman, Sandy, OR 97055): An appropriate title. This is a disturbing collection of stories, art, poetry, comics, and cut-ups, obviously the product of some highly deranged mind. There seems to be no reason to any individual piece, but put

them all together and they weave a web of dark miasma about your psyche. If you must read this late at night, be sure the doors are locked and the prescription drugs are put away, as it will likely unbalance you in unpredictable ways.

THE OFFENSE NEWSLETTER #75 (\$1 will get you a few from PO Box 12614, Columbus, OH 43212): Still going and still small after all these years, this one packs a lot into seven pages of reduced print. Always notable is the letter column, where pretentious music types have it out with each other. Then there's editor TKA's notes about music in his neck of the woods, and a long review of recent SST releases. The whole closes with an interview with Wire's Colin Newman.

OFF THE DEEP END #3 (\$2 from Tim Cridland, PO Box 85874, Seattle, WA 98145-1874): I think the Conspiracy deliberately gave Tim a difficult to remember Box number to keep this information under wraps. The only question is which information, as OTDE is full of all sorts of fringe material. #3, for example, touches on Tesla, the Nazi creation of the CIA, the Hollow Earth theory, Ernst Zundel's trial, Rational Culture, and of course UFOs -- to name but a few topics. Indispensable for any student of the screwy or the screwballs.

ONCE UPON A BLUE MOON 3 (\$1.50 from Nicki Lynch, 4207 Davis Ln., Chattanooga, TN 37416): A fanzine dedicated to the TV series MOONLIGHTING. I'm a bit amazed that apparent adults can spend so much time discussing the plot twists and writing from a TV series, but to each hiser own. Nicki intersperses letters from readers with her own thoughts and ML gossip and news clipped from other sources.

ON GOGOL BOULEVARD #1 (\$1 from 151 First Ave. #62, New York, NY 10003 [checks to "Aspect Foundation"]): A new "Networking Bulletin for Activists East and West", this is being put out by folks in the U.S. who are associated with the Moscow Trust Group, a bunch of activists working in a repressive atmosphere for a safer and saner world. The basic platform calls for grassroots citizen contacts to end the insanity of East vs. West. Plenty of human rights abuse news from both sides of the fence here, from Sergei Batrovin to Leonard Peltier.

ON GUARD #5 (\$10/yr from Citizen Soldier, 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010): A tabloid paper published by "a non-profit GI/veterans rights organization". They take a hard line in fighting for rights, and keep a number of lawyers busy suing the armed forces for one thing or another. Some concerns include Conscientious Objectors not being properly processed, homosexuals trying to stay in the National Guard, and drug testing. Contents include lots of stories on current cases and some legal advice from someone who knows the UCMJ.

ONLINE ACCESS Vol. 2 #4 (\$24.95/yr from 5615 W. Cermak Rd., Cicero, IL 60650): Yeah, this is a slick publication, but an interesting one, as it's moving into a new market niche. This is the place for small businesses to figure out what they're going to do with that computer & modem they just bought. Of possible use to anyone is the review section, of on-line E-mail, databases, stockbrokers, and so on. Maybe a request on business letterhead would get you a sample copy.

THE OPENER #3 (Regis Barbier, R. Democrito de Souza Filho, 235, Madalena, Recife 50.000, Pernambuco, BRAZIL): This one has gotten substantially more confused and cryptic since the first issue, when it was merely off-the-wall libertarianism crossed with fringe science. Now Barbier is babbling about being a "Quantarian", eating only fruit, something called "Ilismo" and various other disconnected subjects. I can't follow it even well enough to tell you what he wants for an issue. But I guess if you write to him and sound sufficiently loony he'll send you a copy.

OPTION 02-P2 (\$2.50 from Sonic Options Network, 2345 Westwood Blvd. #2, Los Angeles, CA 90064): It's amazing how commercial independent music can look when the reviews are typeset and liberally surrounded by ads. OPTION still tries to review every indie release they can get their hands on, and provides regular columns on things like zines and audio equipment. They wrap this around features on mainly obscure independent artists and genres. The 02 ish features Byron Coley on Australian music. In P2 you'll find Current 93, Mutabaruka, and Tom Verlaine, along with such great "P" artists as Al Perry & the Cattle.

THE ORLANDO INDICATOR #68 (SASE from R. Harrison, 2145 Oglesby, Winter Park, FL 32789): "A non-profit newsletter published twice a year to provide a forum for material too

strange to be printed elsewhere." That is, it's mainly anarchist propaganda, including one article that analyzes the unstoppable coming fascist state and the selection of Zen parables. Best here is a short bit, "A Word From Our Sponsors", extolling the virtues of capitalism.

THE ORWELLIAN TIMES (SASE from PO Box 22431, St. Louis, MO 63126): A newsletter that combines scriptural, legal, and politico-economic arguments to prove that America has already been taken over by the bad guys. So don't pay your taxes unless they let us have honest money again, and do go after your minister to convince him that rendering unto Caesar makes slaves of us all. Alternately brilliant and unreadable.

OUTER SHELL #23-25 (SASE from PO Box 7053, St. Petersburg, FL 33734): A single-sheet pfanzone that stays consistently interesting and packs a wallop in its two pages of small print. #23 is a special Elvis Remembered ish, with thoughts on the King's death and what he could have done had he remained alive, right up to a successful miniseries. #24 includes Elvis aftershocks and notes on the twin threats of Michael Jackson and Motley Crue.

OVERTHROW Fall '87 (\$1 from PO Box 392, Canal St. Stn., New York, NY 10013): It's hard to believe the Yuppies are still out there and upsetting folks, but in June their office got raided by the State Police, who hung around for 6 hours ransacking and confiscating. But that hasn't stopped the publication of this outrageous tabloid, largely full of Contragate stories this time around. Big Mountain and various Central American happenings make the news as well, with everything being stamped with the Yuppies cheerfully irreverent style of reporting. Great centerfold poster of the dope in the capital, too.

OWN THE WHOLE WORLD #15 (\$1.50 from 812 Stadelman Ave., Akron, OH 44320): A somewhat infrequent but always fun pfanzone. In #15 Bob makes the short reviews more interesting by mixing up the zines, tapes, and wrestlers and scattering them amidst everything else. Notable are interviews with a couple of Ohio bands, the Bad Crabs and the Crummy Fags (does the whole state have an inferiority complex?) and a long talk with the notorious Gerard Cosloy.

PAGANS FOR PEACE NEWSLETTER #28-30 (\$15/yr from PO Box 6531, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT M5W 1X4, CANADA): There's a lot here of interest to pagans, and a lot of interest to people working for peace, but there's not too much explicitly in the overlap. One notable exception is the call for a radical pagan festival sponsored by the group. Also interesting in #28 was an article arguing that larger, organized Wiccan groups are moving away from the spirit of the Craft. #30 includes a review of a book that examines statistical evidence to demolish astrology and an article on the theology of witchcraft.

PALLAS SOCIETY NEWS Vol. 2 #3 (\$2 from Box 2015, 1800 S. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035): A nice fat (50+ pages) pagan zine. The editors try to keep things somewhat organized, with loose themes and questions for reader input in



every issue. In #3 various people discuss the idea of a Pagan community and Rita Winston provides thoughts on charging and using crystals, along with a lot of poetry, art, ritual and other stuff.

THE PAN-AMERICAN INDIAN ASSOCIATION NEWS #21 (\$5/yr from PO Box 244, Nocatee, FL 33864): A tabloid from a group of American Indians that doesn't stand too much on proving bloodlines but instead invites anyone to join who thinks they have Indian roots. They are active community-builders, and their pages are filled with people and guidance on questions like "What's Traditional?" and "What about Christianity?" A friendly sort of place that's trying to put together a revitalized Indian culture.

PANTHER #1-2 (50 cents from Josh, 32 Chestnut Hill, Greenfield, MA 01301): This minicomic comes from the publisher of THE DANGEROUS TIMES. I can't understand why #1 has gone into a second printing, apart from the few self-referential jokes, since the art is execrably bad. Avoid unless you're a superhero completist.

PARADOX #6 (\$1 from Yurus, 676 Pleasant St. #3, Worcester, MA 01602): A zine of short prose and poetry and strange art. Notable in #6 are the bizarre storylets from Oberc, the happy fanzine reviews, and the storytelling art from Yurus. Hand-colored in places and rooted somewhere in the punk ethic, PARADOX is an attempt to communicate deep feelings with or without the aid of words.

P.A.S.K.A.P.A. #1 (\$1.50 from Agni Runningweed, PO Box 371, Suffern, NY 10901): This proto-apa is an outgrowth of Agni's attempt to establish a Pagan Skeptic's Network. Having found a few prospective members, he uses this as a springboard to comment on their skeptical thoughts, as well as to present a few of his own. He's now waiting to see if anyone likes this idea for an apa, or is fond enough of his writing to buy this as a sample of serious humor.

THE PATH Vol. 1 #7-9 (\$2 from PO Box 486, New Hyde Park, NY 11040): The journal of a new synthetic magickal/Pagan system, THE PATH is branching out all over the place without a very firm center. #7 has bits and pieces of gemology and Tarot lore and myths from various backgrounds, but no core. #8 concentrates a fair amount of attention on Sumerian myths, but also has half a dozen articles in 6 pages, so things are pretty shallow.

PC NEWSLETTER 18 (\$5/6 issues from 1725 E. 115th St., Cleveland, OH 44106): Lovers of little music unite! The Pollution Control folks are now distributing indie releases to 34 different radio stations. A drop in the bucket compared to the majors, but better than many indie folks can do for themselves. In addition to airplay reports and record reviews, the NEWSLETTER also features articles on the Cleveland scene and plenty of debate on issues like home recording rights and the viability of little music. Recommended.

PEACE OIL FOR A RAT BRAIN COMICS #8 (25 cents & a stamp from Carrie, 833 1/3 N. Formosa, Hollywood, CA 90046): A minicomic from the punk subculture. The main feature of this issue is Carrie's strip "Hair Spray Junkie", a story of desperation, dealing, and death in the trendy clubs of L.A.

PEACEWORK #167-169 (\$7/yr from AFSC, 2161 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140): The American Friends Service Committee is often in the forefront of efforts to bring suffering and injustice to an end. #167 is a special issue of this newsletter, focused on South Africa, and featuring a mix of straight reportage and opportunities to make a difference, as well as networking links to other resources. #168 reports on a number of actions -- civil disobedience against AIDS bigotry, the latest Plowshares activists, and more. Plus there's always plenty of news and contact addresses from around the peace movements.

PECKERWOOD #1 (SASE from Edward Grey, PO Box 65, Comanche, IA 52730-0065): A single-sheet reduced-print pzanine from the heart of Corn country. Fortunately that doesn't affect the content, outside of one reference to Hee-Haw. For the rest there are short reviews of a pile of Alex Chilton records, likewise of some sleazy video, and news on the Iowa scene.

PELTIER REPORT - August 1987 (Donation from PO Box 6455, Kansas City, KS 66106): A newsletter from the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee. In case you've been sleeping, Peltier is in the Federal pen thanks to a rigged trial and falsified

evidence from the FBI, after he got too influential in American Indian circles. Even Amnesty International says he's a political prisoner. The Supreme Court has been asked to order a new trial, and letter-writing campaigns are popping up all over the place. The cause, not the four pages of info, is worth a few bucks.

PERPETRATOR #1-Summer (\$1 (?) from Nori Negron, 21 Wadsworth Ave., New York, NY 10033): A mostly-pfanzine that branches out rather widely. Regular features include depressing short stories and an advice column written by Lydia Lugosi, a rather abrasive person, to say the least. There are also band interviews and photos -- in the Summer ish it's Youth of Today and War Zone. More interesting, though, was the interview with tattoo artist Shotsie, complete with photos of his work.

PHILLY ZINE #4 (\$1 from Jesse Townley, 108 Rochelle Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19128): PZ is still on the fast part of the growth curve, growing visibly with each issue. In #4 Jesse talks to Henry Rollins (and doesn't get sneered at), publishes the first part of an awesome skate story, and crams most every page with reduced print about punk music. This issue also includes movie reviews and interviews with Legitimate Reason and Doctor at Tree.

PHOEBE Vol. 4 #1 (\$1 from James MacDougall, 3220 N. St. NW #333, Washington, DC 20007): James took a season off, but now the "Newsletter of Eccentricity" is back and better than ever. This is the place to go to find out about toilet paper shortages, Gary Hart bumperstickers, porno stars in the Italian Parliament, Asian Flying Cockroaches, take-out alligator sandwiches, and other evidence that the universe has turned into a bad satire. Tons of amusement on every page.

PHOTOSTATIC #25/26 (\$6/yr from Lloyd Dunn, 424 E. Jefferson #4, Iowa City, IA 52240): An experimental art magazine that has a hefty, near-professional feel to it. This double is the "Networking" issue, and it includes 20 ready-to-send postcards and a grab bag of stamps as part of its contents. Other pages include concrete poetry, manifestoes and texts exploring the mail art network, collages, and strange doodles. A lot of well-known mail artists are represented, and Lloyd wraps the whole thing up with a nice section of reviews of other cutting-edge art pubs.

PKDS NEWSLETTER 15 (\$2.50 from PO Box 611, Glen Ellen, CA 95442): It's amazing how much news there continues to be about Phil Dick (SF writer, for those of you who don't read) now that he's dead. This newsletter is filled with plans for books and operas and articles and stories, mainly by but sometimes about Dick, being published all over the place. There are also photos, excerpts from his crazy correspondence, and articles attempting to come to grips with this brilliant but flakey writer.

THE PLAGUE DOCTOR #3 (SASE (?) from Jim Hayes, 96 Marion St., Morgantown, WV 26505): A small collection of rants superimposed on collages. Jim's writing style is unique and arresting, as he plunges headlong into stream-of-consciousness connections between things like Rudolf Hess and the current rise of drug testing. There are clear messages here, but they're well baled in a mass of words.

THE PLEH #2 (SASE from PO Box 5088, Kent, OH 44240): A single-sheet zine made by selectively cutting up and rearranging your typical leftist socially-conscious newspaper. Sort of Campbells condensed Cream of Left soup. Best bit in this issue: the Barbie Trial headline, complete with a picture of everyone's favorite doll.

POOL SCUM (\$1.50 from John E. Sandbag, PO Box 668, Bastrop, TX 78602): The first ten pages of this 32-page comic are based on a true night of pool skateboarding in the lovely little town of Bastrop, but after that, things turn...weird. John imagines his way into a more suitable ending, featuring dreaded pool scum disease, a barbaric teenage diet, cropdusting with beer, and other oddities of life in the great state of Texas. Hilarious comic ads for Army Ants and Sea-Monkees at the end.

POOT #10-11 (\$1.50 from 10922 Fortune Ave., Cleveland, OH 44111): In the tradition of the underground comics of yesteryear comes this densely-illustrated rag. (Indeed, some of the illustrations are so dense as to be nearly

impenetrable). The subject matter tends to the satirical, the drug-induced, and the musical (including renditions of famous rock songs). #11 is an all-art "instrumental" issue, featuring full-page drawings with their titles as the only words.

POPPIN' ZITS #0 (\$1 & 39 cents postage from Jerod Pore, 495 Ellis St. #954, San Francisco, CA 94102): A new "zine by, for and about trash kultur." This includes pics of the Pope going after his own zits, short fiction about game shows of the future, strange new conspiracy theories (William Casey alive and well), collages, 800 numbers, Baboon Dooley, strange trivia about rock and roll, and more. Jerod is intending to pay for material for future issues, so if you're into this sort of lowlife stuff buy the first issue to get the details.

POSITIVE THOUGHT #3 (50 cents (?) from 10421 Green Mountain Cir., Columbia, MD 21044): Skateboards and loud music in a digest-sized zine. #3 includes interviews with the late great Ruin as well as the Meatmen and Outcrowd, plus lots of skateboard pics and a few record and zine reviews.

POSSIBILITY POST Vol. 1 #3-4 (\$1 from Lee Glickstein, 116 Coleridge St., San Francisco, CA 94110): A broadside of small print, this one is a brainstorming session transported to the written page. Various Posters write in with their questions or problems. Lee then throws out his ideas in the same issue, and in future issues others get into the act. Several people already report successful use of the ideas developed in this manner, and it looks like a friendly network is fast becoming a reality.

THE PRAGMATIST Vol. 5 #1 (\$10/yr from PO Box 392, Forest Grove, PA 18922): "We propose the abolition of all taxes as the keystone of a society that will provide every person the opportunity to prosper in peace and freedom." So begins the Statement of Purpose here, and it's backed up by much scholarly analysis, in two major forms. First, existing instances of government interference in society are dissected to show their impropriety; second, market and private alternatives are proposed. The whole tends to be hard-hitting and focused on current problems -- like public schooling in #1.

A PRAYER (SASE from AYO Dot, PO Box 1040, Boston, MA 02205): A small pamphlet of art with an even smaller pamphlet (postage-stamp sized) tipped into the middle. It all comes together as sort of an unnatural trip through the natural world, with animals, minerals and a few vegetables mixing together thanks to the wonders of collage. You could make a case for this being an ecological statement, but you might have to be an art critic to do so.

PRESENTS OF MIND #16-17 (\$1 CASH from 13848 Methuen Green, Dallas, TX 75240): A zine of whatnot with an emphasis on Dada and SubGenius, though the latter seems to be a recent discovery on their part. Best part of #16 is the sexually-explicit interview with Tipper Gore, explaining what she really thinks of that satanic rock music. #17 is the Gomez Addams issue, heavy on the cut-ups and the results of a Top Ten Albums survey.

PRESUMPTIONS #22 (\$1 from 1442A Walnut St. #58, Berkeley, CA 94709): This is D. Patrick Miller's vehicle for showing off his skills in graphic design, typesetting, paper selection and, oh yes, writing. PRESUMPTIONS looks lovely and it's pleasant to read, varying from essay to poetry to reader response. #22 is a piece on a local exercise club, unveiling the mystery of the disappearance of older members. Somewhat unsubstantial but still interesting.

PRIMAL SCREAM #2 (\$1 (?) from PO Box 803, Boulder, CO 80306-0803): A new anarchist zine coming out of the younger, music-oriented wing of the movement. Because of their location, they're heavily involved in anti-nuke direct action, and #2 contains news of actions at Rocky Flats and the Nevada test site. There's also inspirational poetry, thoughts on various injustices in the world, and zine and music reviews.

PRIVATE SOLUTIONS June 1987 (Sample on Request from NCP, 949 Parklane, PO Box 1998, Wichita, KS 67201-1998): The Libertarians are always talking about privatizing government functions, but is anyone doing anything about it? Well, yes, according to the National Center for Privatization, and in this short desktop-published newsletter they round up current news on the subject. Short blurbs give a quick look on projects ranging from the HUD library to private toll roads.

"THE PROJECT" July/Aug./Sept. 1987 (\$\$20/yr from A-Albionic Consulting and Research, PO Box 20273, Ferndale, MI 48220): "The British Empire is the Central Phenomenon of World History Since the Decline of the Vatican," proclaims the masthead. These guys are heavily into identifying the "nature of the ruling class conspiracy" that runs our lives, a conspiracy that they see originating in the "City", London's financial center. Incredibly detailed plots spanning centuries are standard fare here, and it's a wonderful look at things they don't teach you in school.

PROJECT 1313 #2 (\$1 or whatever from PO Box 1313, Lawrence, KS 66044): This successor tabloid to THE GENTLE ANARCHIST is wrapped around a surprise one-more-issue of TGA. The whole is of a piece, being concerned with topics like the myths of money and prisoners' rights and the struggle at Big Mountain and stuff like that. The lead article is on the Mailing of Lawrence, but other than that things are of wider than local interest. Features a nice feisty letters column and plenty of writings from behind bars.

PUNCTURE #14 (\$2.25 from 1674 Filbert St. #3, San Francisco, CA 94123): Hey, it looks good, the reviewers think, and it's hefty; what else do you want? I particularly like PUNCTURE's in-depth coverage of their lead story on the Mekons; in addition to a wide-ranging interview, they review some of the vinyl and a couple of live shows, all in one spot. The heart of this pfnzine is probably the record reviews, intercut with cleverly-captioned photos and featuring candid opinions about a large chunk of the cutting edge, written by folks who know what's going on and what could be.

PUSSY FOOT ZINE #2-3 (\$1 from PO Box 3358, La Habra, CA 90632-3358): There's a lot of energy behind this pfnzine but it doesn't seem to have gelled yet. The problem, I think, is that they're trying too many innovations at once: a column of dream interpretations, Siskel & Ebert type music reviews, stream of consciousness live show reviews, and other things. There are interviews with The Brigade and the Descendents, among others, in #2. #3 includes Social Distortion and Super Heroines, and is expanded and better-looking, but with less of the innovative features.

PWA COALITION NEWSLINE #21-26 (\$20/yr from 263A W. 19th St. #125, New York, NY 10011): These folks steadfastly refuse to trade with me but they're important enough to list anyhow. A newsprint zine about half the size of FF, PWACN is the best source I know of for alternate and mainstream information on AIDS; written by and for People With AIDS. In addition to news of medical research, they carry stories on dealing with day-to-day life, memorials for those who've died, and an extensive list of services and organizations in the NYC area.

RIVER ROSES phoenix 99

b/w

black velvet postcard
asleep behind the wheel



From Chrome Rock Navel through
Saturday Night, these cats really swing.

It's a lovely blend of folk Mexico
with the rockin' funk beat.
Not too heavy, not too light. Simply
the happening love groove we all dig.
Relate.

-Johnny Condo-Sender

RECORD & STICKER  \$3

Includes postage & handling

monsoon records

#6 835 e. 7th st. tucson, az. 85719

QUIMBY ARTCHIVES #15-16 (\$1 from PO Box 281, Astor Stn., Boston, MA 02123): A couple of chapbooks of art from these prolific folks. #15 is a collection of drawings of various unlikely and sleazy rodents by Gerald Burns. #16 is a group of Fish Hedd's drawn-over photos of women, vaguely disturbing. Art books for the unbalanced.

QUIMBY COMIX (\$1 from PO Box 281, Astor Stn., Boston, MA 02123): Another project from the QUIMBY QUARTERLY people (see below). These comix are nicely produced in a full 8 1/2 x 11 format, and the art (though varied) is very nice. The only problem I have is that too many of the artists go in for the dangling ending and the deliberate ambiguity to make this much fun to read. The Art Clams score points for putting Tipper Gore into their bad acid trip.

QUIMBY QUARTERLY #9 (\$3 from PO Box 281, Astor Stn., Boston, MA 02123): The only underground or alternative arts magazine I know of that makes a real effort to cover all of the arts: music, literature, drawing, painting, sculpture and fashion design are only some of their interests. Each issue is full of reproductions of work by Boston's new artists and conversations with the artists themselves, and lovingly printed on high-quality paper -- a work of art in itself.

RADAR DEFENDER Sample II (SASE from 3545 Nicollet Ave. S. #108, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A sample issue of a newsletter dedicated to getting you out of traffic tickets. The coverage here is condensed, but they talk about modifying your car to make it less detectable, review different brands of radar detectors, and offer advice on whether to fight traffic tickets. Aimed at the professional driver or speed demon.

RANDOM WRITINGS #14 (\$1 CASH or \$2 Check/MO from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): Five pages of reduced-print from this prolific self-liberationist. In #14 Jim talks of Georgism and utopianism and thought and property taxes and South Africa, often debating his readers.

RAPED ASS #1-2 (SASE from PO Box 491, Greenbelt, MD 20770-0491): See, there's this thing called "positive punk" that's big around D.C., with values like love and peace and not getting plastered and violent and eating meat and stuff like that. Well, RA is put out by a couple of pseudonymous writers who have no use for this attitude and would like to slandance the peace punks right into the wall. Contains plenty of rude and offensive raving, dirty pictures, crude rumors about people on the D.C. scene, and so on. No socially redeeming value at all.

RAUNCH-O-RAMA INFORMATION SHEET #15-16 (35 cents from Brad Goins, PO Box 2432, Stn. A, Champaign, IL 61820): R-O-R has been growing lately, and now this project "Scouting Abrasive Culture" has become a small digest, not unlike very old issues of FF. Brad started with abrasive music, but has now expanded to poetry and art, and looks intelligently and knowledgably at the latest in this border area where the object is to fascinate by aural or textual torture. Nina Hagen, Bongwater, John E., My Dad Is Dead -- that will give the cognoscenti some idea of the ground covered in these two issues.

RAW POGO ON THE SCAFFOLD #7 (\$1 (?) from Eric DeJesus, 449 S. 43rd St., Philadelphia, PA 19104): A hardcore punk zine from the Lehigh Valley, with lots of ecstatic coverage of loud noisy people. #7 features a heavy amount of scene reportage and an interview with Justice League. For \$4 you can get a collection of back issues up to and including #7, a fat stack of hardcore to satisfy the noisiest mind.

REAL WAR STORIES #1 (\$2 from CCCO, 2208 South St., Philadelphia, PA 19146): I reviewed this in FF23, but since then I've gotten the full-color final version and it looks even better than I expected. Put together by the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors, this is a look at true stories of wars, told by those who were there, in all their disgusting details. Not just scare tactics, but an unconventional presentation of alternatives to military service, packaged to sell.

REASONS FOR LIVING #4 (\$2 from Jim DeRogatis, PO Box M2076, Hoboken, NJ 07030): There's a nice little concept behind this issue, and that's asking various underground rock critics what one album they would take to a desert island. Some of the expected folks are here (Stooges, Lou Reed, Velvet Underground) but there are some curve balls as well (Patti Smith, Jerry Lee Lewis, Tom Verlaine). What comes out of it all is a series of mini-essays defining what "good music" means to a batch of folks who write for plenty of pfanzines.

Amusingly enough, the only really new record on the list is a Wire album, chosen by the editor. Everyone else goes for traditional greats.

RED BUDDHA #30 (\$1 from Rev. N.B. Shifferly, Mind-Way Church, PO Box 664 Dept. R, Mansfield, OH 44901): The newsletter of the Zendokan Budokai of America, an eclectic martial-arts and self-discipline school. In #30 they discuss the career and teachings of Funakoshi Gishin, the inventor of Karate as a separate skill, and an important member of the Zendokan Budokai heritage.

RED NECK GAZETTE Vol. 2 #2 (5 cents & SASE from Yorkkraft Publishing Co., PO Box 4025, Tequesta, FL 33469): A little photocopies newsletter of gossip and innuendo from the Jupiter/Tequesta area of Florida. One gathers that the editors are out to get someone in town, but I don't know why. Reads like a parody of any small-town journal but is decidedly in-jokish.

RELIGION WATCH Vol. 2 #10-11 (\$14/yr from PO Box 652, North Bellmore, NY 11710): A news digest that reports on contemporary religion of all sorts. Editor Richard Cimino reads hundreds of periodicals and brings trends and highlights to his readers. #10 included stories on the still-alive Identity movement, the effects of female clergy on American religious life, attempts to reclaim Temple Mount in Jerusalem from the Muslims, and the aging evangelical leadership, among many others. #11 covers everyone from the Unification Church to the new Christian right to the charismatics.

REM:9 (\$1 from Charles Platt, 594 Broadway #1208, New York, NY 10012): A sfanzine that's a bit slimmer than usual thanks to the editor's decision not to publish any more pseudonymous criticism, after a ridiculous incident in which someone was accused of unfairly stealing a pseudonym. This accounts for most of the lettercol. Fortunately, much of the rest of the issue is taken up by Charles's own report on the recent Worldcon in Britain, a delightful mix of literature, reporting, and gossip.

RESISTANCE NEWS #25 (Donation from NRC, PO Box 42488, San Francisco, CA 94142): This tabloid keeps track of draft and registration resistance around the world, not just at home -- there are stories in #25 about efforts in the USSR and South Africa. The cover story of course is about the recent sentencing of Gillam Kerley, who drew 3 years for non-registration. Other contents include various protest letters and wickedly funny cartoons by Tuli Kupferberg.

RESONANCE #8 (\$1 from Judy Wall, PO Box 64, Sumterville, FL 33585): The newsletter of Mensa's Bioelectromagnetics special interest group. These folks are basically interested in the effects of electric and magnetic fields on biological tissues. #8 is a special issue, written entirely by Judy, on "An In-Depth Look at Electro- and Magneto-Perception in Fishes", 20 pages long, with lots of references into the scientific literature.

REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BRAOCASTING #119 (\$2 from Glenn Hauser, PO Box 490756, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33349): A fat zine for the shortwave listener. Though there is some news coverage -- for example, #119 includes a bunch of expose-type stuff on Voice of America -- most of the content is schedules and reception reports. There's also a bizarrely ingroupish letter section which is largely unintelligible to me. But with news of upcoming programs as well as those past, this looks useful for those of you with working shortwave radios.

(R)EVOLUTION UPDATE Aug. 1987 (Donation from PO Box 306, Onondaga Stn., Syracuse, NY 13215): A short newsletter to fill the gaps between issues of (R)EVOLUTION magazine. It's basically three pages of dates and descriptions of upcoming events of interest to the anarchist and activist communities, with contact information.

RIDING THE BLINDS #9 (SASE from Rich Lopez, 1424 N. Concord Ave., Santa Maria, CA 93454): A single page of fanzine reviews followed by most of a page of Eugene Chadbourne interview. Rich seems to like hardcore punk the best, but listens to just about anything over the edge from mainstream music, and is up front with his opinions.

RISE ABOVE #5 (Self-addressed envelope & 2 IRCs from Waterfront Records, 119 York St., Sydney 2000, NSW, AUSTRALIA): A pfanzine with smeary black print and large doses

of alienation and (self-)loathing. There's a chat here with Greg Ginn, but most of the rest of the features are on Aussie hardcore bands, with plenty of contacts in the zine and record biz. But jeez, this stuff is depressing to read, especially when the ed gets off into telling us exactly what's wrong with the down under punk scene.

THE RISE AND FALL OF MORTY THE DOG (\$2.50 from Starhead Comix, PO Box 30044, Seattle, WA 98103): 32 more pages of Morty the Dog. Artist Steve Willis insists "This time he dies for real, folks." But I'm not so sure -- we've had death of Morty stories before. Anyhow, this may be your last chance to get acquainted with the adventures of this abrasive, philosophical, surrealist cur, so don't pass it up. Willis is a genius.

THE RITUAL #8 (Contribution from Saffron, 2749 Audobon St., New Orleans, LA 70125): "Anti-Authoritarian Press", says the cover. This appears to be the work of a new generation of hippies, with about equal space devoted to drugs and animal rights, plus a critical look at the poetry of Allen Ginsberg. The only clashing topic is the analysis of the debate between the various minor Democratic contenders for the presidency -- surely anyone who goes in for so much psychedelia isn't still embroiled in politics?

ROCK N' BISCUITS Vol. 1 #11-12 (\$1 from Libby Gast, 3704C Manor Dr., Greensboro, NC 27403): This pfanzine has gone tabloid and the resulting shift in sizes has left it looking a little disorganized, but it's still worth a look. The coverage is slanted towards new bands, Southern bands, and non-metal bands; if that sounds like fun to you, go for it. #11 features interviews with Love Tractor and Birdsongs of the Mesozoic. #12 has the Dead Milkman smarting off and a whole pile of recorded music reviews.

THE ROWAN EXCHANGE Fall 1987 (\$3 from PO Box 63, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572): A LETTER EXCHANGE-type publication specifically for Wiccans, neo-pagans, and the like. They publish anonymous ads seeking correspondence (with strict rules to prevent sexual or commercial listings) and maintain a mail-forwarding service to return interested replies. 24 listings in the Fall issue, ranging from fellow travelers to experienced Gardnerians.

THE RUBBER FANZINE Vol. 2 #4 (\$1.25 & 39 cents postage from J.C. Palmer, PO Box 2432, Bellingham, WA 98227-2432): Under the nom de stamp Rudi Rubberoid this amazing personage is encouraging the best stamp-artists in the world to come out of hiding and present their works on the printed page. Besides the expected bizarre art, this also features some hints on further resources and a small but feisty lettercol.

RUNE 76 (The Usual from Minn-Stf, PO Box 8297, Lake St. Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55408): The sfanzine of the Minneapolis

SF Society is back again, on its fourth and fifth editors for the last three issues. Once again they're starting from scratch with introductions and principles, though they do manage to work in a very few other things. Chief among these are a large section of sfanzine reviews and locs on the last couple of issues.

RURAL NETWORK ADVOCATE #44-47 (\$10/yr from Lois Kohles, Rt. 2 Box 150B, Gays Mills, WI 54631): That's the subscription price for this journal -- for \$25 you can actually join the network and get in direct touch with the rural singles involved. Otherwise, the zine contains lots of thoughts on making it alone in the (comparative) wilds and occasionally just fun writing, like David King's piece on cats in #45. In #46 Lois and several other members speculate on staying financially afloat after making it back to the land.

SANDHILLS LIBERTARIAN GAZETTE July-Oct. 1987 (Donation from Lexington County Libertarian Party, PO Box 2297, West Columbia, SC 29171): A newsletter for the party faithful, letting them know what's wrong with government and what's right with Libertarianism. The main thing they're scared of is more taxes, apparently with good reason: looks like the SC legislature spends most of its time thinking of new ways to separate citizens from their money. They also put forth the basics of Libertarian thought and provide some early news on Ron Paul's candidacy for President.

SCAVENGER'S NEWSLETTER #42-43 (70 cents from Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City, KS 66523-1329): There's a sure sign of prosperity in #42: Janet has gone to bulk mail, and so must have over 200 copies going out. That's not surprising, as SNL is far and away the most informative and funnest to read zine dealing with small press publishing that I know of. It's centered in the SF/fantasy/horror area and offers lots of market news, tips on writing, reviews of small literary pubs, and some plain silly fun, like the Killer Frog anthologies (see the BOOKS section). Aimed at the working amateur rather than the established pro writer or artist.

SCHISM #16 (SASE from Janet Janet, 135 Cole St., San Francisco, CA 94117): Well, if there are comic minis and text minis then this is an art mini. In this particular issue the art is textual but not necessarily linear -- my own theory is that the short pieces presented are song lyrics for the well-known avant-garde band White Colours. The underlying theme, repeated several times, is "Plagiarism is Necessary - Progress Implies It". Choreography for an ungiven concert.

SCHOLAR ALERT #13 (\$10 CASH/6 issues from PO Box 3125, Denver, CO 80201): More legal explorations and advice from some folks in the Constitutionalist movement. Currently they're considering the practice of issuing arrest warrants without a judge first deciding on probable cause, and advising folks not to recognize the jurisdiction of such courts. Lots of information if you're in trouble, though you might get in more trouble by following it. They have an extensive library of other stuff available including ready-to-file court papers.

SCIENCE FICTION EYE #1 (\$3 from PO Box 3105, Washington, DC 20010-0105): An ambitious new critical zine that aims to fill the void left by the demise of both SCIENCE FICTION REVIEW and CHEAP TRUTH. The premiere issue is certainly flashy, with a focus on cyberpunk, anchored by interviews with Gibson and Sterling and featuring John Shirley and David Brin trading insults. John Kessel gets in a bit of balance from another part of the SF community, and in general the prospects are good for a lot of future literary argument. A bit clannish to be of interest to those not deeply committed to the rightness of one side or the other.

SCIENTIA Vol. II #3-4 (\$2 from Andrew P. Smith, 10A Woodland Ave., San Francisco, CA 94117): Andrew has offered to send a free sample of the current issue to FF readers on request. In his "Newsletter of Science and Other Forms of Knowledge" Andrew explores the frontiers of science and popularizes recent developments. Sometimes, as with articles on superstrings and RNA, he reports on research. The more interesting articles, though, such as the one on hierarchy in #4, explore the boundaries of science and investigate subtle paradigm shifts that might be taking place. Each issue includes a bibliography of further reading, helpfully rated as to technical difficulty.



SCRAP 5 (\$2.99 from Chris Winkler, PO Box 255, Mooraka, 4105 Queensland, AUSTRALIA): The Plutonium Press has relocated and so, alas, the price is up, but the quality is still the same: high. Chris presents a collection of images in collage and word, grinding up bits of our culture and spitting them up again. He has many collaborators in this effort, folks like Jake Berry and Mike Miskowski and John Rininger, and so this still looks like a zine from the US of A. Don't they have local content laws Down Under?

SCREAM #2 (\$1.50 from PO Box 10363, Raleigh, NC 27605): An intriguing zine that bursts out of the mold of the literary magazine despite being centered on short fiction. That's because the stories are buttressed on one side by excerpts from the Gemstone File and on the other by a couple of pages of surreal comic strips. The poetry contribution is also unusual, being a series of sonnets on modern subjects, expressed in strangely dissonant classical language.

SCRIBBLE UNLIMITED PRESENTS: June 1987 (50 cents from 444 Edgewood Pl., Rutherford, NJ 07070): Um. This seems to be zinedom taken to some sort of satiric ultimate. It starts out with a, well, story (poem?) that rapidly devolves into an argument in print between the three or four writers. Then there's the interview where the interviewee gets up and walks out, the history of punk rock that reaches back to Johnny Ace, and the pointless avant-garde short story. Definitely not your typical zine.

SCUT (Casualty Cover) (39 cents postage from PO Box 14, Selden, NY 11784-0014): A zine which seems to be anchored in the punk ethos -- witness the free-for-all layout, cheap photocopy, and anti-system graphics -- but which carries more than just music news (though there is a bit of that here too). Other concerns include vegetarian restaurants in New York, animal rights, anarchy on Long Island (the Modern Times community) and erotic poetry. Something for everyone, with phantom editors lurking far, far back.

SEATTLE STAR #11-12 (\$5/yr from Starhead Comix, PO Box 30044, Seattle, WA 98103): A tabloid paper that aims to showcase some of the best underground artists and their wares while still selling enough ads to stay afloat -- which really doesn't seem to be many. #11 is filled with the work of bizarre person Peter Bagge, who eyes interpersonal relationships with a rather strange twist. #12 features a page from graphics genius A and a nice tribute to MC Escher by David Miller.

SECONDHAND GOODS #1 (The Usual from Chuck Connor, Sildan House, Chediston Rd., Wissett, Near Halesworth, Suffolk, IP19 0NF, ENGLAND): A collection of apazine pieces from the publisher of IDOMO. Chuck writes about his travels in the Navy from about '85 to the present, stopping in South Georgia (the one around the Antarctic Circle), Pearl Harbor, Naples and who knows where else. He tells his tales with the objective glee of the budding anthropologist, and his sense of humor is contagious.

SECONDS #3 (\$1.75 from PO Box 2553, Stuyvesant Stn., New York, NY 10009): A tabloid pfanzine that operates on the assumption that musicians are people too, or at least that they're something more than their hype. So they talk to DOA about their problems getting royalties, or to Joey Ramone

about the hassles of music videos, or to the Residents spokesman about the Theory of Obscurity (well, that's getting pretty close to hype). Almost nothing but conversations, but at least they are conversations and not stereotypical interviews.

SEX

Not just explicit sex, but more erotic and less sloshy stuff is in this box. I find links between all of these; maybe you will too. Think of it as a restaurant review column that includes hamburger joints and five-star French places alike.

APA-EROS #11 (SASE & State over 18 for sample from Sylvia, PO Box 759, Veneta, OR 97487): This reader-written forum about sex & relationships has had an interesting life so far but is right now on hold while looking for a new person to run things. It might be worth your while to send for the sample and perhaps the current issue and see if you'd like to take over the scut work of keeping this exchange of thoughts on sex, light porn, drawings, and feelings going.

AVANT-GARD WORLD #13 (SASE (?) from PO Box 9609, Seattle, WA 98109): A four-page collage made up of ads, pictures, and snippets of purple prose culled from the pages of various adult magazines and catalogs. An overdose of squirting, gyrating, pounding, sleazy sex.

J.D.s #3 (\$1 (?) from 2154 Dundas St. W. #401, Toronto, Ont. M6R 1X3 CANADA): A zine for gay punks, male and female. There's no music reviews as such, but this is clearly part of the scene, if only from the look of the zine. Features light porno, cheesecake photos and drawings, and some complaints against repressive society. Favorite fetishes: tattoos and motorcycles.

MAGNET SCHOOL #6 (\$5/6 issues from PO Box 3222, Traffic Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55403): Lisa Labia coined the word "sexographic" about a year ago and now she's publishing the zine that shows us what it's all about. Basically she's interested in fun, non-exploitative, non-violent sex. #6 includes great reportage on a trip through Minneapolis's sleaze district, some hot homosexual autobiography, a guide to herbal aphrodisiacs, and more. Hot, horny and growing fast.

PHALLOS Aug. 1987 (\$2 from Saint priapu Church, 583 Grove St., San Francisco, CA 94102): Rev. Don Jackson continues his unconventional ministry to the homosexuals, providing a food bank, group gropes, glory holes, and a phone buddies club, along with a lot of material promoting phallic worship and the belief that "sex can destroy evil".

YELLOW SILK #24 (\$4 from PO Box 6374, Albany, CA 94706): Although publisher Lily Pond turned editing and design tasks over to Richard Russo and D. Patrick Miller, YS retains the same comfortably sexy feel as ever. Explicit slippery friction does not leap out from every page (but the poets and writers don't shy away from it when it's appropriate) but lust and love do. And as usual the art is something special, this time from Sandra Wasko-Flood, who does interesting photoetchings and monotypes with the nude as their base. Reading YS is likely to get you in the mood to grab the handiest partner and go to bed for an afternoon of quiet explorations.



"A Salvador Dali of music"
- Belinda Subraman, GYPSY

Michael Chocholak
M & M MUSIC
Rt. 1, Box 55
Cove, OR 97824 USA

Write for free catalog

JAM TAPES

Tired Of Practicing Lead Styles Alone?
Wail With Full Accompaniment With

Jam Tapes

One 60 Minute Cassette Varied Styles

Only \$8.95

Postage And Handling Free!

Send Check Or Money Order To:

Jam Tapes
P.O. Box 742-(D)
Severna Park, MD 21146

S.E.T. FREE #21-22 (SASE for info from PO Box 1124, Albuquerque, NM 87103): There's certainly no lack of people writing nasty things about television these days, and the folks from the Society for the Eradication of TV are happy to collect them all in one place for you. Learn about the biases and nastinesses inherent in the medium, see how it's used for political control, and read about those who have chosen to throw this monster from their homes.

THE SF CONVENTION REGISTER, Autumn 1987 (\$6/yr CHECK/MO from Erwin S. Strauss, 4271 Duke St. #D-10, Alexandria, VA 22304): A service sfzine. This is a listing of all the conventions that Erwin -- aka Filthy Pierre -- knows are coming up. Lists 300+ conventions taking place between now and the early 1990's, with information on where, why, and how to get in touch. Indispensable for the serious SF conventioneer.

SHADOWPLAY #12 (A\$4.50 from Rhea Grimwood, PO Box 343, Petersham, NSW 2049, AUSTRALIA): A fat and fun neopagan journal from the land of Oz. Most interesting to this oftentimes rationalist was Leigh Blackmore's exploration of the various occult nonsense surrounding H.P. Lovecraft. But there's a lot more here, with particular strengths in reporting individual experiences at gatherings and rituals.

SHARING LIFE Fall 1987 (Donation from HPI, PO Box 808, Little Rock, AR 72203): Heifer Project International is a charity with a difference; they emphasize helping people build a viable economic life. They do this by giving livestock and stock-raising advice, something that may raise a few eyebrows among animal rightists, but also something that provides both food and income for the needy worldwide. It's worth looking into.

SHARK TACTICS 3 (IRCs from Mike Copley, 18 Athole Gardens, Hillhead, Glasgow G12 9BA, SCOTLAND): A cryptic and convoluted broadside of SF criticism, loosely growing upon (as a mushroom upon a rotting log) the cyberpunk movement. In #3 Mike examines the use of television and metaphor and the future of flashy SF.

SHORT FUSE #25 (50 cents & 56 cents postage from Holden, PO Box 90436, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-0436): An apa that tends to the mail-art side of things, though textual pieces are included as well. Notable in #25 are a page on the aquatic ape theory and a few pieces which accidentally form a thematic core of anti-work/anti-system propaganda.

SHOW ME FREEDOM Vol. 2 #3 (\$5 from PO Box 3231, University City, MO 63130): Yes, there are Libertarians in Missouri, and this is their newsletter. It looks nicer and has more in it than many other state LP zines; in particular, editor Terry Inman reveals plans for a doable yet ambitious outreach program. Also of note is Andrea Ayvazian's article on the Deadly Sins of organizational development.

SICK TEEN (46 cents from Rev. Norbert Elmo Ugly, PO Box 918, Green Bay, WI 54305): A classic little pfanzine from the wilds of Packer country. The Rev. serves up a heaping helping of slangy reviews of live and recorded music and throws the whole together over a deranged osterized background of graffiti, art stolen from ads, and pictures of half-nekkid girls. The current issue features a comparative review of porno magazines.

SIGNAL INTERNATIONAL #65 (\$5 airmail from Box 150, FI-15111 Lahti, FINLAND): A huge international pen-pal listing. There are about a thousand ads in #65, many with pictures. People are after everything from talk to marriage, and come from all ages, sexes, and countries under the sun. There are also articles on the cultures of various countries and a table of foreign exchange rates.

SIGN OF THE TIMES Vol. 3 #2 (\$15/yr from Studio 403, PO Box 70672, Seattle, WA 98107-0672): A literary zine that bills itself as "A Chronicle of Decadence in the Atomic Age". I'd say they fit the bill, with a mix of twisted sexuality, twisted reality, and bizarre art filling the pages. Mark Kemp's "Horn of Plenty", for example, describes the strange naturalistic religion developed by one young boy. Best bet:

James Alexander's "Purgatory", a story of a biker in trouble. Well-produced and innovative.

A SILVER LINING Vol. 1 #5 (A stamp from Sean Collins, PO Box 5238, Laurel, MD 20707): A zine basically devoted to U2, though a few outside influences like the Dead Milkmen and

FACTSHEET FIVE show up in Sean's pages. But the lead stories are where his heart is: loving accounts of a couple of U2 concerts. The man knows the group, and his enthusiasm is contagious.

SKATE RAT #1 (\$1 from 1630 University Ave. #26, Berkeley, CA 94703): Put out by some 12-year-old named Josh with the help of veteran zinester Ace Backwards. This is basically an ode to skateboarding, with short features on hardware, tricks to do, and other parts of the skate scene.

SKULLDUGGERY #8 (\$1.25 from Cosgriff Publications, PO Box 734, Hopkins, MN 55343): Well, the layout and multi-color offset (like WARNING used to have) on this pfanzine are nice, but the contents need some work. The interviews are old -- some 2 or 3 years -- and don't seem to break out of the "shoot the breeze" mold. There are some record and zine reviews, but they're crammed in at the end. On the other hand, their compilation cassettes look like a pretty good deal if you want to get a handle on Mpls. music.

THE SLAPDASH HACKERY FACTORY #4 (\$1 from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): #4 was theoretically the "Envy" issue in Carl's Seven Deadly Sins Festival, but no one found much to say about envy, so instead it's a somewhat disjointed collection of stories, poems and art with, as he says, "weirdo/anarchist infrachords". Notable lunatics such as Hakim Bey and Ernest Free Mann mix with lesser-known poets and writers to create an atmosphere where just about anything seems possible.

THE SLAPDASH HACKERY FACTORY #4 1/2 (\$2.75 "or whatever" from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): A special issue that's good enough to deserve a separate listing. This is the "Constitution Bicentennial Celebration Issue", two chapbooks plus a selection of posterist things. The theme, as one might expect, is the dehumanizing effect of modern American society, strongly expressed in poetry from Carl, Sharon Elker, and Davina Ann Gabriel. There's also a selection of quotes from people who think there might be a better way to live. A nice artistic piece of anarchist propaganda.

SLIME TIME #10-11 (50 cents from Steve Puchalski, 1108 E. Genesee St. #103, Syracuse, NY 13210): Economics have forced the change from all-slime-green paper to white with a green cover, but this is still the same collection of trashy movie reviews as ever. Biker movies, Japanese monster movies, women-in-prison movies, slasher movies -- they all hold Steve's interest. Some idea of his character can be gained from the glowingly-positive review of Warhol's BAD in #10. #11 includes the Monkees, the Garbage Pail Kids, and lots of female-exploitation flicks.

SLUG AND LETTUCE #2 (\$1 from Chris Boarts, 242 S. Gill St., State College, PA 16801): Your basic hardcore pfanzine, although there are some idiosyncratic touches like a couple of photos that have apparently been digitized and computer-printed, and a couple of pages on vampires. Between these extremes, though, there are articles and interviews with DOA, Necracedia, and other young men with ratty clothes and loud music.

SMALL PRESS REVIEW #176 (\$16/yr from Dustbooks, PO Box 100, Paradise, CA 95969): A literary reviewzine that doesn't ignore the very small presses, though it's still not willing to trade with me. They review new publications, provide market notes, and supply an advice column for the writer, conducted by Merritt Clifton.

SOCIAL ANARCHISM #12 (\$3 from 2743 Maryland Ave., Baltimore, MD 21218): A fat and somewhat academic anarchist journal. Sometimes I think they spend too much time on the glories of the past and not enough on the problems of the present or the possibilities of the future, but that's hardly unique. Their book reviews keep tabs on much of interest to anarchists, and the reviewers don't pull any punches. Major articles in #12 investigate the illiteracy industry and the possibilities for feminism as a continuing movement.

THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC #30 (75 cents from IUP, PO Box 80, New York, NY 10159): The newsletter of the Industrial Union Party, a socialist group that believes in bottom-up revolution to overthrow capitalism without instituting a new hierarchy. Most of the contents consists of analysis of current political news or discussions of historic socialist ideas.

THE SORCERER'S SCROLLS #24 (\$1 from Tori Bergquist, PO Box 117, San Simon, AZ 85632): Role-playing games are alive and well. That, at least, is the impression that one gets from this zine. Tori prints accounts of various RPG adventures, reviews of scads of new and old games (and peripheral things like source books and movies), rules modifications and more. #24 features jousting rules for T&T, the first announcement of Tori's own "The Ultimate Computer" game (very loosely modeled on TRON) and a review of a play-by-mail pro wrestling game. Fun stuff.

SORTE ROSE/SCT. PETERS ENGLE (IRCs from Jakob Nielsen, Valmuearken 23, DK 9000 Aalborg, DENMARK): A special one-shot combination of two Danish punk zines, and a nice combination it is. As with other European zines I've seen, the photography is excellent in both content and reproduction and the overall production is high quality. Most of the zine is in English though there are a few Danish pages. On the other hand, most of the groups interviewed and written about are European, which makes this a source for stuff you won't get here at home. Marie (editor of SPE) also writes interesting things about new books worth reading.

SOUTHERN LIBERTARIAN MESSENGER Vol. XVI #2-5 (\$5/yr from Route 10 Box 52A, Florence, SC 29501): The message is that the government is a collection of stupid but powerful buffoons. John Harilee reprints stories from all over about governments terrorizing their citizens and wasting their money, and puts in occasional plugs for the Libertarian Party as an alternative. #5 includes some interesting correspondence with a Senator and a new twist on the 1040 form.

SPACE AND SECURITY NEWS Vol. IV #2 (\$25/yr from ISSS, 7833 C St., Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732): The Institute for Space and Security Studies seems to be mainly a support group for Dr. Robert Bowman, who worked on defense measures in the Ford and Carter administrations and is now a private citizen doing everything he can to oppose SDI. This includes publicizing possible holes and dangers in the system, international visits to try and lower the tension that creates the perceived need for it, and a grueling speaking schedule. He is said to be one of the best debaters on the subject, and this 24 page newsletter is full of hard facts and well-argued opinions.

SPACE & TIME 73 (\$4 from Gordon Linzer, 138 W. 70th St. #4B, New York, NY 10023-4432): 120 pages of science fiction, fantasy, horror and frivolity. The centerpiece of this issue is perhaps Manny Parsonson's "Blood and Tears", a SF Sherlock Holmes adventure; but I preferred John and Traci Salonia's "The Imp in the Bottle", a double-crossing tale of demonic sorcery well-illustrated by Mark Odson. Gordon has a pro-quality zine here, with great stories and a nice feel to it.

SPEW & REVIEW #29-31 (SASE from Bob Konshak, 1490 E. Ryan Ave., Maplewood, MN 55109): A small zine of social commentary and smartass humor. #29 expands to three whole pages and features an adulatory review of the Madonna concert, notes on television worth watching (like Patty Duke), and thoughts on finding a subservient wife, courtesy of Bag of Water. #31 is devoted mostly to outre music, including the Mints and Patty Duke, plus a page of reviews and stuff in German.

SPIT SINK #1 (35 cents from Liam Sullivan, 264 Belmont St., Worcester, MA 01604): A new pfanzone with the usual start-up energy, but it's got a long way to go to be taken seriously. Liam and his friends chat about shows and records and skating and straight-edge, but nothing is gone into in great depth. Still, there probably isn't a lot else to do in Worcester, so maybe this will improve.

SPONTANEOUS HUMAN COMBUSTION QUARTERLY #1 (\$1 CASH from Rodney Dioxin & Prudence Gaelor, 46 Sutton St. #3L, Brooklyn, NY 11222): A new literary zine in rather the spirit of INSIDE JOKE, but with more smut and less media references. No, that's not fair, there's not nearly enough smut in this issue, and a lot of humor, even if there are the bleak moments like the guys who burned to a crisp in their own crappers. The stories range from surreal to self-referential to satiric to just a bit funny.

SPORADIC DROOLINGS #7 (\$2 from Dave Burokas, PO Box 1092, Kearny, NJ 07032): OK, what kind of person puts out 80 pages of mostly type? A dedicated lunatic, of course, and that's an adequate description of Dave's relation to the music community. All sorts of nice interviews in #7, including Luna Ticks, Theatre of Ice, and Chris Phinney, who runs Harsh

Reality records. I particularly liked Dave's page-long analysis of the state of fanzines (dubious, I guess) and the new less-reduced print. And I suppose some of you might like to know that Shane Williams is one of their hardest-working staffers.

SRAF BULLETIN #100 (\$6/yr from PO Box 1751, San Francisco, CA 94101): Yes, the Social Revolutionary Anarchist Federation apa made it to 3 digits, and most of the past production groups dropped by to reminisce. Otherwise, it's the same blend of hope for the future and interminable movement debates and attacks that have characterized SRAF for a long, long time. Yves Breton is emerging as the paranoid with the longest memory lately.

STAMP COLLECTOR Aug. 1, 1987 (\$12/26 weeks from Van Dahl Publications, 520 E. First St., Albany, OR 97321): A weekly tabloid devoted to -- any guesses? -- philately. They feature lots of pictures (mainly b&w) of new and famous old stamps, plus a calendar of new issues from the U.S., Canada, and the U.N.

STARLIGHT #7 (\$8 CASH from c/o Sirius, PO Box 452, 00101 Helsinki, FINLAND): That's a price for Airmail to the U.S. -- not bad. This is a mimeographed neopagan newsletter centered firmly in the activities of a local coven. #7 includes general thoughts on Green politics, a look at claims that Finnish and Egyptian cultures are closely related, book reviews, short fiction, and a few paragraphs on constructing spells. No nonsense writing in a friendly voice.

STEP FORWARD #1 (75 cents from PO Box 10094, Scottsdale, AZ 85271): A new and small pfanzone that is mostly short interviews. Strangely enough most of the bands (with the exception of Agnostic Front) are unknown to me: Slap Shot, Underdog, Corrupted Morals, Half Off, and Rest In Pieces make up the bulk of the zine. There are also real short zine and record reviews and that's about it.

STIGMATA #21 (\$3 from PO Box 1094, Paris, TX 75460): A few years old but still available pending release of a new issue later this year. This newsletter is devoted entirely to cattle mutilations, #21 is a good issue to start with, featuring a history of the phenomenon, various speculations about what may be going on, and reports of specific cases. A puzzle to mull over in a locked room.

STREETS AHEAD #6 (\$1 from Jennifer Benjamin, 4644 Ruth Way, Union City, CA 94587): A small but dedicated pfanzone that cries out to be read. #6 features interviews with Lethal Gospel and Terminal Choice, poetry and stories by Yarlett Kenibe, and lots of dark, doomful collages. There's also an interesting proposal for a punk letter-writing campaign.

THE STUMM CONNECTION #146 (\$5/8 issues from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): An apazine without the apa, this is a copy of Jim Stumm's writings for THE CONNECTION. This enables you to have some sense of what is going on there without reading the whole brick, and in larger print to boot. In #146 Jim discusses land ownership via labor mixing.



SUB COMIC 6 (\$4 from Jeff Curtis, PO Box 6643, Cleveland, OH 44101): From the publisher of COOL ART comes this exquisite collection of comics. Some don't seem to have any meaning outside of surrealism, some (like Dimm-Witt the Barbarian, part of the enclosed mini SUB-SUB) are cheap laughs, and some actually essay a plot, though more often that is just a vehicle for characterization. Jeff draws well, and the other artists (including Randy Russell and Sean Hill) hold up their end as well. There's also a nice Ralph Steadman meets two folding chairs portfolio in the middle.

SUB HUMAN #7 (\$3/5 issues from Cecil Doyle, 1509 W. St. Mary, Lafayette, LA 70506): "Eccentric Video and Film" -- which means, of course, sleazy movies of all types including hardcore porn and gore flicks. Cecil has a lot more staffers and wider coverage than most of his competitors, and sometimes they even pan a film -- Jeff Smith, for example, recommends that all prints of MAKE THEM DIE SLOWLY be burned. But of course most of this is plugs for how great things like BLUE VELVET and SEVEN INTO SNOWY are. Contains tips on what's new and sick on videotape.

SUB ROSA #17-18 (\$2 from Nico Vassilakis, 840 #2A Palisade Ave., Teaneck, NJ 07666): A journal of mainly poetry, with excursions into other arts at times. #17 is pretty much all poems (though broken by a few drawings) with names like Bennett and Arguelles dropping by to hobnob with a lot of folks who aren't small press household names. Most of this stuff is experimental without abandoning language and sense. #18 leads off with a curiously stylistic play from Alan Atkinson and contains a bunch of ink-spattered drawings by Loring Hughes, as well as more poetry.

THE SUBTLE JOURNAL OF RAW COINAGE #1 (50 cents & SASE from Geof Huth, 715 Watkins Rd. #A9, Horseheads, NY 14845): A small broadside of newly-coined words from "polyclef" to "foma", arranged in what Geof calls "a kind of minimalist serial poem". Perhaps an inspiration to budding wordsmiths, or useful for those who can't remember what word they wanted and don't care.

SUBURBAN VOICE #23 (\$1 from Al Quint, PO Box 1605, Lynn, MA 01903): Al's been doing this for five years and #23 includes some thoughts on the state of punk and of zinedom. The backbone of SV is still the interviews, with D.R.I., Youth of Today, and Accused featuring prominently in #23. Al also covers the Boston club scene and reviews scads of new music. A pfanine that shows the dedication of its editor.

SUBW 2 (\$1.50 from PO Box 2892, Cambridge, MA 02238): A zine for the arts that's just getting started out. In #2 they continue their listing of Boston-area zines that are taking work, publish a few poems, and print an essay by editor Crystal Waters on baldness.

SUDS 'N' STUFF #35 (\$14.95 from Beer Drinkers International, PO Box 6402, Ocean Hills, CA 92056): Well, you get what you expect in this case -- beer reviews (pardon me, "profiles") and publicity from various brewers about all the wonderful things they're doing for beer drinkers. I used to write something of the sort myself, but now that I'm off the sauce, I guess this is the place to turn.

A SUITABLE JOB FOR A WOMAN #2 (\$1.50 from Sharon Rose, 203 Talley Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37411): A mystery-fan's letterzine, geared towards female readers and writers. Basically, #2 consists of half-a-dozen of Sharon and co-editor Nicki Lynch's friends writing in with their thoughts on female writers or detectives. There is a sort of underlying "what is hardboiled?" theme beneath the reviews and thoughts.

THE SURVIVOR Vol. 6 #6 (\$10/yr from Kurt Saxon, PO Box 327, Harrison, AR 72601): Such a cheerful person Kurt is! In this issue he shows you how to build an electrified prod to off any intruders at your house, predicts again the collapse of society, and reprints a manual on shotgun repair. Kurt also sells many innovative weapons, which are probably all illegal to order and own.

THE SWEET RIDE #6 (Contribution from T.B.S. Publications, 5414 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870): "For the next issue...send a letter or postcard, your magazine or music, a contribution, or a stamp or two. Money is OK too." Anyhow, although this is subtitled "The Rock'n'Roll Magazine", editor Randy Russell has chosen to make #6 another special movie issue, so what you get is ten or twelve pages of his rambling thoughts on movies from BLUE VELVET to PLATOON to HAIL MARY.

SWELLSVILLE Summer 1987 (\$5/4 issues from PO Box 85334, Seattle, WA 98145): "A Critical Guide for Consumer Deviants" is the tag on front of this pfanine, and its most notable feature is the range of interests. The summer ish, for example, contains columns on bootlegs and Aussie music as well as feature articles on Phil Ochs, Skrewdriver, Killdozer and various "power pop" groups. Dedicated musical coverage.

SYCOPHANT #3 (\$3.50 from S.C. Virtes, 12322 Poway Rd. #348, Poway, CA 92064): A relatively new journal of supernatural, sfinal, and just plain strange literature. The outstanding piece in this issue is John Rosenman's "The Power", a story with a quite unexpected twist at the end. Al Manachino contributes a nice but somewhat insubstantial piece and L.J. Wright terrorizes with a story of underwater doom.

SYNTHESIS #25 (\$3.75/5 issues from PO Box 1858, San Pedro, CA 90733-1858): The League for Ecological Democracy has recently expanded their subtitle here to read "A newsletter and journal for Social Ecology, Deep Ecology, Bioregionalism, Ecofeminism, and the Green Movement." They're smack in the middle of this interlocking set of constituencies, and consistently present all the news of the movement in detailed but not judgemental fashion. Fascinating stuff, particularly when they find space to talk about ecology as well as politicking.

TACTICS OF THE MLL Vol. IV #2 (\$1 from PO Box 1748, Long Beach, CA 90801-1748): Well, the Movement of the Libertarian Left is still out there, publishing and trying to radicalize Libertarians, but I haven't seen much action. Particularly amusing in this issue was editor Vic Koman's editorial wondering why the weapons train that ran over Brian Wilson wasn't derailed on its next trip. Well, where were you, Vic? Best bet: J. Kent Hasting's column on using technology for privacy.

TAESCHNER'S COMEDY MAGAZINE #1 (\$20/yr from Sean Taeschner, 1933 7th Ave. W, Seattle, WA 98119): Apparently Sean went out, sold a bunch of ads, did some comics, priced printers, and realized that something had to go. So this magazine is over 50% ads, plus the cover, one page of mildly funny cartoons, and a rather pointless non-humorous alternate world story. Skip it.

TALES OF THE SINISTER HARVEY #2 (\$1.50 [preferably stamps] and Age Statement from Edgar "Bolt" Upright, 104 W. Main St. #4, Carrboro, NC 27510): A collection of bizarre and troubling comix and collages. There's actually not that much explicita here, but perhaps the social climate is repressive in NC. Anyhow, Edgar and his pal Eff and their various friends take a look at such popular pastimes as despair, gluttony, pointlessness and crucifixion in this zine. Graphic designs from Hell in the centerfold pages.

TALK IS CHEAP #2 (\$1 from PO Box 2296, Philadelphia, PA 19103): Free locally if you can find it. The difference between this and most free papers is that the staff is unpaid, so they don't need many advertisers and hence their content can be fairly controversial. In this issue there's reporting on the anti-Constitution demo in Philly at the recent celebrations, close to the bone stories of city life, music, art by Luna Ticks, and a look at the economics of putting out a free tabloid. Great work for so early in the game.

TARA #9 (\$1.75 from 427-3 Amherst St. #234, Nashua, NH 03061): An eclectic zine of neo-pagan thought, with sources in both the west and the east. #9 features a comparative review of various I CHING translations, and thoughts on whether doing rituals in public is such a hot idea after all.

THE TERRITORIAL HERALD No. II Vol. VII (75 cents from PO Box 7075, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677): The newsletter of the Free Territory of Ely-Chatelaine. What the FTEC proposes is emancipation from government via forming one's own "household principality" and opposing the ancient law of kings to the modern bureaucratic state. The TH functions as sort of a networking paper for those who have taken this path and those who hope to, and contains a lot of semi-legalistic stuff stating the policies and goals of the Territory.

TETRAGRAMMATON FRAGMENTS #101 (\$1.25 from Steve Keeter, 1003 E. Amelia St., Orlando, FL 32803): This is the fanzine of the United Fandom Organization, and something of a comics fans apa. Basically it's a place for artists to get together and discuss one another's work, as all members are required to send their zines to all other members. Right now the roster is

full, but they're still putting applicants on their waitlist if you're interested. Lots of constructive criticism and little or no backbiting.

THE TEXAS SF INQUIRER #21 (\$2 from 618 Westridge, Duncanville, TX 75116): A sfzine that's now for more than just Texans. The strengths here are in convention and book reviewing; the Fandom Association of Central Texas has several people who do good work in each field. You'll find some news of upcoming events as well. In #21 the standout was an interview with Teddy Harvia, an ace cartoonist who dropped out of sight for a few years but is back with a new book.

THANG! #5 (\$1 from 105 S. Mills, Madison, WI 53715): A pfanzine that had the misfortune to arrive on deadline day so I'm having trouble thinking of anything to say. The Mike Watt interview is pretty cool, but most of this is record and tape reviews, and what can you say about those? Short feature stories on Salem 66 and Big Dipper and a strange anti-Fundie story wrap things up.

THEATRE I A O (\$1 (?) from 1601 Oakcreek #D, Bedford, TX 76022): This is a strange one, issuing from the "New Mexico Illuminati". It's a batch of hastily typed rants photocopied so the words run off the page and then stapled together. There's speculations on the future of the Revolution, much cryptic magickal stuff that speaks of Crowleyan influences, commentary on drug testing, collages, poems...Impossible to read in a linear fashion, one must absorb this as a collage of the improbable and the sinister.

THIS ZINE SUCKS #6-8 (\$1 from Bob Conrad, 1601 Scenic Dr., W. Trenton, NJ 08628): A pfanzine concentrating on the Jersey area — in fact, #7 was All Jersey, including mini-interviews with 15 different bands. #6 features a load of zine reviews, while #8 seems to concentrate more on interviews: McRad, Seizure, and Predator, for example. Nicely laid out and put together, not one of the Eyestrain City zines.

THE THOUGHT Vol. 7 #8-9 (\$1 from The Philosophers Guild, PO Box 3092, Orange, CA 92665): This one has been subtly changing over the past few years, and although the cocksure Socratic method that rubs me the wrong way is still occasionally present, editor Ron Tobin and his staff have loosened up in their presentation of libertarian philosophy. #8 even features a short story written by Ron himself and the idea that intellectual development isn't enough all by itself, as well as the philosophy and prisoner support that they've been doing for a long time. If you've been avoiding this one on the basis of past reviews, it might be time to dip in.

THREADBARE (\$1.50 from PO Box 20681, Seattle, WA 98102-1681): A SubGenod rag that's composed mainly of news clippings on the bizarre and sublime happenings of our world ("Rats as an alternative food source" and "Debates over Jesus a vital sign", for example) and rants by various Church members. Kerry Thornley's column continues to be of vital importance, with THREADBARE publishing somewhat more connected essays than Kerry has sent me. Also contains some AIDS revisionism and plenty of SubG collages.

THREATENING SOCIETY #3 (\$2 from Tony Mattei, 1425 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19147): A pfanzine that's devoted entirely to interviews, but with the line-up they've got, there won't be many punks complaining. A few of the bands in #3: Verbal Assault, Cro-Mags, Ludichrist, and Dag Nasty. Pretty much all hardcore punk stuff, at least from my perspective, but you'll still find intelligent and interesting people answering the questions.

THUMBSCREW #3 (\$2 from Terata, PO Box 810, Hawthorne, CA 90251): A publication of the arts: short stories, poetry, a play, drawings, ruminations, collages, and whatever else editor Todd Mecklem is interested in. The stuff here is strange, moody and bizarre, as befits the title — perhaps many of the pieces are intended to torture. Particularly intriguing are the opening comic "A Journey In To Pirotto" which resembles an adult WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE, and Denise Dumars' reflections on visiting Marilyn Monroe's tomb.

THE TICSOTA NEWSLETTER Feb/July 1987 (\$15/yr from Cliff Martin, PO Box 3983, Muskegon Heights, MI 49444): The "Things I Can't Say On The Air" newsletter is a venture from the world of talk radio to the world of print by a guy who loves words and wants to share them. This is a place to reflect at length not permitted by the exigencies of commercial radio. In the current 4 pages Cliff talks about some good jazz, about the ZBS Foundation tapes, and about strange places where his readers live.

TIME WORM #9 (\$1 (?) from Sean Hill, 1920 Emerson St., Dayton, OH 45406): A collection of stories, rants, poetry and drawings that observe life from the inside out rather than the outside in. I'm most amused by Sean's own stick-figure Zentoons, but they're only a small part of the contents. Larry Oberc has developed the knack of expressing powerful emotions through mundane events, and some of the uncredited erotic (or nearly so) poetry is also well done. All laid out in a multi-layered fashion that brings palimpsests to mind, and makes me want to know what's behind the collage that I can see.

TOM GILL PREDICTS Vol. 9 #17 - Vol. 10 #1 (SAS from TGP International, 2477 Sycamore Lane #E6, Davis, CA 95616-5571): A legal-sized broadside that comes out every couple of weeks, TGP tends towards the obscure, the humorous, and the precognitive. #17 showcases an all-purpose jargon generator while #18 features a small selection of humorous "laws".

TOTAL CHAOS #2 (\$1.50 from PO Box 65291, Lubbock, TX 79464): Photocopy costs must be high in Lubbock, as this pfanzine is only 20 pages long, and contains mainly generic features: record, tape and zine reviews plus interviews. They do devote a bunch of space to reasons to become vegetarian (based on the premise that if you make meat sound revolting enough people will stop eating it) and interview Squat Thrust and BFD.

TOXIC FANZINE #2 (\$1 from Allie Borten, PO Box 109, Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02101): A fairly typical pfanzine — there's at least one in every city (and this is certainly not the only one reviewed in this issue of FF!). Allie reviews live shows and recorded music, and interviews whoever she can — Murphy's Law, King Face, Verbal Assault, Dag Nasty in #2 — so the reason to buy it is if you like one of these bands.

TRAJECTORIES Vol. 1 #1 (\$12/yr from PO Box 49249, Austin, TX 78765): A new tabloid aimed at the science-fiction crowd, though not at the entrenched core of fandom, since comic strips and media conventions get coverage as well as more mainline sfan activities. In fact, there is even a complete comic book included in the centerfold, together with instructions on assembling it. Other features include a calendar of fan events, interviews, suggestions on writing, and even a couple of complete short stories.

TRANET #47-48 (\$30/yr from PO Box 567, Rangeley, ME 04970): The quarterly newsletter of the Transnational Network for Appropriate/Alternative Technologies always impresses me, and should put to rest any rumors about the AT movement being

ROIR

JAMES CHANCE, 8 EYED SPY, DICTATORS, SUICIDE, NEW YORK DOLLS, BAD BRAINS, FLESH TONES, GERMS, TELEVISION, NICO, JOHNNY THUNDERS, BUSH TETRAS, RAINCOATS, MCS, GLENN BRANCA, FLIPPER, PRINCE FAR I, EINSTURZENDE NEUBAUTEN, RICHARD HELL, LOUNGE LIZARDS, I AND THE MYSTERIANS, CHRISTIAN DEATH, DICKIES, SKATALITES, UK SUBS, MUTE BEAT, SEX GANG CHILDREN, JOE "KING" CARRASCO, DUB SYNDICATE, POLYROCK

● CASSETTE ONLY ●

AMAZING STUDIO PRODUCTIONS OR ENGINEER-RECORDED LIVE CONCERT PERFORMANCES...AND NOT AVAILABLE ON VINYL! YOU'LL FIND THESE ONLY ON ROIR (SAY "ROAR") CASSETTES. BEAUTIFULLY PACKAGED, FULL-COLOR GRAPHICS, BAND PHOTOS, EXTENSIVE LINER NOTES...AND RECORDED ON PREMIUM-QUALITY BASF LTD TAPE. CHECK OUT YOUR FAVORITE RECORD STORE OR BE AMAZED BY OUR FREE ILLUSTRATED MAIL-ORDER CATALOGUE. SEND FOR IT TODAY:

ROIR, 411 BROADWAY, SUITE 725
NEW YORK NY 10012
(212) 477-0563

hidebound and stagnant. Each 16-page issue reports on hundreds of projects being undertaken on grassroots scales and dealing with the environment or peace or farming or medicine or a zillion other things. There are also special pull-out directories, with #47 containing a guide to "Alternative Energy Today" and #48 discussing "Alternative Travel".

THE TRANSCENDENTALIST CLUB #7 (\$1 (?) from PO Box 80812, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080): A stream-of-consciousness zine that goes from readers' letters to sound poetry to crazed short stories to record reviews with nary a break. In between the editor(s) babble a bit and advise on how to annoy your creditors. The format takes some getting used to, but the contents are intriguing nonetheless, and turning each page is a new surprise.

TRUST #8 (3 DM or, I guess, IRCs from Dolf Hermannstadter jun., Salzmannstrasse 53, 8900 Augsburg, WEST GERMANY): An overseas pfanzine that I don't mind trading for at all -- it reminds me a lot of FLIPSIDE, with lots of interviews and pics and letters. Of course it's all (except for one page from a columnist) in German, but punk is nearly an international language by itself. Lots of brilliant hardcore photos, like the cover shot showing someone flying through the air at a SUicidal Tendencies gig. #8 also has Butthole Surfers, Antitoxin, Pissed Boys, and much much more. Not to be missed if you're into music at all.

TV EYE Vol. 1 #1 (\$1 from Ed Skinner, 520 Hempstead Tpke., W. Hempstead, NY 11552): Well, a 40-page newsprint zine isn't bad for a first outing, and it manages to include interviews with the Bush Tetras, March Violets, Cosloy, and one of the Stranglers. On the other hand, there's not much feeling of depth, and the grammar and proofreading isn't very good. On the third hand, the photos are nice, and if they can improve on this, the TVE staff could end up with a nice pfanzine indeed.

T.W.I. #4 (\$2 from Curtis Olson, PO Box 19441, Washington, DC 20036): "A Journal of Politics and Literature", though there is a good deal more of the latter than the former here. Actually, the most fascinating piece in #4 is the tour of Curtis's collection of rejection slips, ranging from the offensive to the truly witty. Wayne Kline's "A Few Good Men," a tale of Marinal hijinks, is the winner in the poetry section, while the stories of transportation past and hardcore present were also great fun. Lots of variety here but no filler.

TWISTED IMAGE #11 (\$1 from Ace Backwards, 1630 University Ave. #26, Berkeley, CA 94703): This issue starts off with a great Steadmanesque drawing of Ron and Nancy, and the tone holds for the whole thing, as it is a collection of something like 100 of Ace's sardonic cartoons. Punk Rockers, UC students, and authority figures of all sorts are his usual targets. You've seen his work in FF -- maybe now it's time to buy the anthology and see all the stuff I never found room for.

TWISTED TISSUES (\$1 from Charles Pinion, PO Box 14775, University Stn., Gainesville, FL 32604): Charles sent me a variety of things, some minicomics, one full-size zine, and a poster -- I'm sure a buck or two will get you a selection. It's all filled with his art, gruesome and shuddery stuff done with bold manic strokes and featuring body parts, skulls, digestion, and other unsavory things. Do not peruse just before a meal.

THE UNDERGROUND GRAMMARIAN Vol. 11 #5 (\$15/yr from PO Box 203, Glassboro, NJ 08028): A newsletter that will confirm your worst suspicions (if you have any) about the decline and fall of American education. The editor, R. Mitchell, takes a continuing series of pot-shots at the current educational fads, and speculates on the fate of our culture. Doom and gloom in the conservative tradition.

THE UNICORN Vol. X #7 (\$1 from PO Box 8814, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A neo-Pagan journal that's about to have it's tenth anniversary, a fine record. The most stand-out feature of THE UNICORN is the selection of fine art, with various faerie and pagan themes.

UNITED RIGHTS #3 (\$1 from PO Box 278, Falmouth, MA 02541): A small newsprint pfanzine from the hardcore world. Interviews with Dag Nasty, Verbal Assault, and Slap Shot (a fascinatingly semi-literate band of straightedge thugs) make

up most of the contents. There's a sprinkling of reviews at the end and some nice live show photographs.

THE UPRIGHT OSTRICH Vol. VI #7-8 (\$3 from PO Box 11691, Milwaukee, WI 53211): A Constitutionalist zine that inclines towards a conspiratorial view of the world, but nonetheless remains an excellent resource because it reprints stuff from all over. #7 contains their views of the Iranscam mess. #8 suggests that Ollie North may have been programmed at Bethesda Naval Hospital to play his part in the hearings.

U.S. FARM NEWS May 1987 (\$5/yr from 3819 69th St., Des Moines, IA 50322): This comes from something called the "U.S. Farmers Association". I don't know who they are, but I do know what the May issue is about: The American invasion of Russia in 1918. It's an interesting topic, but what's it doing here? And why no farm news? This looks suspiciously like a propaganda organ masquerading as heartland sentiment in the wake of ABC's "Amerika" miniseries.

USSR NEWS BRIEF #11/12-#13 (\$22/yr from Das Land und Die Welt e.V., Schwanthalerstr. 72, 8000 Munchen 2, WEST GERMANY): This is a fortnightly report on political and religious prisoners in the Soviet Union, reporting on new developments without calling for any action on the part of readers. #11/12 contains an extensive discussion of an amnesty in connection with the 70th anniversary of the revolution.

VAR TUFU #1 (\$1 (?) from 647 W. Foothill Blvd., Upland, CA 91786): A tabloid that seems to be trying to take the punk look of manic, packed layouts and expand it into the rest of the alternative world. Music is still the key theme in #1, with clippings and interviews and the fanzine reviews being mostly music-orinated, but the editor promises an expanded horizon soon. Could be worth risking a buck or so on, if only to marvel at the clip-art chaos.

THE VERY LAST MAPLE LEAF RAG (\$2 from Garth Spencer, 1296 Richardson St., Victoria, BC V8V 3E1, CANADA): The final issue of Garth's newszine, but worth picking up as in it he attempts to compile some comprehensive information about Canadian sfandom. So betwixt the news one gets information on Canadian apas and clubs and conventions and semiprozines and so on. A guide to the various divisions of fandom is also included. A good job to go out with.

VICTORY MUSIC REVIEW Vol. 12 #8-9 (\$15/yr from PO Box 7515, Bonney Lake, WA 98390): A pfanzine that covers all sorts of music that's underrepresented in today's writing world: things like folk and dance and children's and ethnic and women's music, for example. The zine is built around the centerfold calendar listing hundreds of club dates in the Seattle-Tacoma-Olympia area for the month, and builds out into a page about each type of music.

VIDEO DRIVE-IN #13-14 (\$4.50/12 issues from Herb Shrader, PO Box 32313, Columbus, OH 43232): Herb steps in to gloat



over sleazy movies that even other critics of the genre tiptoe around. #13 leads off with a comparative review of flicks involving eyeball mutilation, and ends with a listing of sleazy new video titles. In between are blood, guts, gore, reviews and letters from those with similar interests. #14 focuses in on the exploitation after death of porno star Shauna Grant.

VIDIOT #1 (\$1 from Flint Mitchell, 7331 Terri Robyn, St. Louis, MO 63129-5233): "Light Reading for Videoids", this one is not afraid to come right out with firm opinions -- like saying that Beta sucks and that SF fans can't copy movies to save their collective ass. Includes lots of reviews of cheesy movies on tape, reviews of fanzines and letters from the SF community, previews of upcoming cheap video equipment, and funny but cranky writing.

THE VILLAGE NOIZE #2 (\$1.50 from Eric Wielander, 48-54 213 St., Bayside, NY 11364): Lots of energy here and a 100% better project than #1. About a 20 pages of hardcore music in the package, prominently anchored by a Token Entry interview (they also talk to a few other bands: Leeway, YDL, Rest in Pieces, Gorilla Biscuits). Eric and co-editor Chris take a two-man look at recent movies, review some zines and records, and sneak bizarre stuff into the layout. Growing fast.

VIRGIN MEAT #2 (50 cents from Steve, 5247 W. L-10, Quartz Hill, CA 93536): A pfanzine from California's Antelope Valley, where there isn't a lot to do but watch the tumbleweeds. So instead Steve has filled this short digest with a Gang Green interview, a word search, a small crossword, comics and poetry. Punk culture in lieu of a lot of punk music.

THE WASHINGTON REPORT ON MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS Vol. VI #3-5 (\$2 from PO Box 53062, Washington, DC 20009): A densely written analysis of goings on in the Mideast, particularly the ones involving US foreign policy. The main villain in most of the accounts here is Israel. Now, while they may be harping on this too much, I think the opposite sin -- refusal to admit that the Israeli government might pull a fast one now and then -- is a much more common failing of the press. So read with a critical eye, this one can help present a more balanced picture of what's really going on.

THE WASHINGTON SPECTATOR Vol. 13 #13 (\$10/yr from PO Box 442, Merrifield, VA 22116): A newsletter published by the Public Concern Foundation, and apparently devoted to publicizing the liberal agenda. This issue is mostly occupied by "The American Mood: Protest and Concern", linking together current actions of civil disobedience with their historical roots and projecting a hope for the future.

WDC PERIOD Vol. II #1 - #2 (\$1/2 copies from Chow Chow Productions, c/o Satellite Foundation, PO Box 39074, Washington, DC 20016): WDCP has made some big changes lately, going to a typeset tabloid format that doesn't allow so much room but looks a lot better than the old slapdash issues. There's still plenty of underground comics here, along with record and show reviews and lovely back page ads for dirty phone numbers.

WE THE PEOPLE #28 (\$3 from Michael Wolff, PO Box 52113, Houston, TX 77052): That's enough to get you on to the roster of this apa, ostensibly organized to promote political discussion. And such discussion is looking healthier all the time, with the quantity of reprints going down and the quantity of responses going up. Recent topics include AIDS, creation science, Oliver North, anti-authoritarianism, and much, much more...about 80 pages an issue's worth.

WHY MUSIC SUCKS #2 (\$2 from Frank Kogan, 625 Ashbury #11, San Francisco, CA 94117): You can get this semi-apa cheaper if you participate in the ongoing discussion about modern music and associated topics (like the triteness of pfanzines today). #2 is 44 pages of argument and thoughts from the likes of Frank, Luc Sante, Mykel Board, Pennie Stasik and other new music figures. Oh, and me. We may not figure out what "punk" is or what's wrong with zinedom, but the arguments are fun anyhow.

WIG OUT #12 (\$1 (?) from PO Box 44633, Tacoma, WA 98444): This is ostensibly a pfanzine dedicated to Girl Trouble, a group on the minimalistic Olympia label (K). But it turns out to be a loving resurrection of 70's and 50's culture -- the Decades of Nostalgia, or something like that. Features Annette Funicello pics, beer can hats, Fireball 500, the 7

Wonders of Tacoma, and other things best suited for garish color postcards.

WILDCAT #10 (75p or, I guess, IRCs from Box W, 180 Mansfield Rd., Nottingham, ENGLAND): An uncompromisingly revolutionary communist journal that sees all of the Left as enemies. They call for revolutionary action rather than theorizing or reformism -- despite which, most of the pages here are arcane analyses of world events such as the Iran-Iraq war. At least they're dealing with new issues like Lesbian & Gay struggle and the current Labour Party platform rather than just the same old arguments.

WIND #59 (\$2 from Quentin Howard, RFD Route-1, Box 809K, Pikeville, KY 41501): A well-established literary magazine that opens with a rather daunting quantity of serious poetry but then segues into a collection of short stories. One of these stands out like a gem for me: Peter LaSalle's "Dolphin Dreaming", a down-to-earth look at a most unusual footballer and his life. I don't know where LaSalle has been, but I'd say he's going places. But with 100+ pages to choose from, you might find plenty else to enjoy besides this story; Quentin has been in the business long enough to be drawing a lot of excellent submissions.

WOLF PALAZZOLO #5-6 (\$1 (?) from 137 Houston St. #4, New York, NY 10002): A tabloid of experimental art, in various stages of completion, published without censorship or other editorial bs. Recent contributions include lots of collages and poetry, some interviews, a bizarre story or two, and less identifiable things. Sex and fetishism rank high on the contributors' list of interests. Much of this material fails, but a few pages are oddly moving.

WOO-WOO #2-3 (\$1 from 730 E. Johnson, Madison, WI 53703): An art and stuff publication that gives the impression of being assembled with exquisite care. Papa Ganda takes old advertisements and new scams and science and insight and collage and generates full-page posters, one thought to each, that will make you think. Of course, you may not like the thoughts; but that's your problem. An argument for getting past politics and war and capitalism and stuff to what really matters.

WORKERS' TRUTH #8 (\$3/yr from Workers' Truth Publications, c/o Boxholder, PO Box 5830, Chicago, IL 60680): Do you really care about whether the 9th Congress of the Party of Labor of Albania took certain non-revolutionary stands or whether their more glaring error was the strength of their centrist ideology? If not, this terribly boring communist journal (from the Organization for a Marxist-Leninist Workers' Party) is not for you. I don't know which group they're a splinter of, and I don't really care. 24 pages per issue is a lot of big words for the money, though.

WORLD ECONOMIC REVIEW #57 (\$45/yr from PO Box 507, Chalmette, LA 70044): A feisty little conspiracy-theory publication that operates from the assumption that everyone from Ronald Reagan leftward is soft on the commies, or very probably a commie spy. Sample sentence: "As a front man for the One World Conspirators, Kissinger is spearheading a campaign by his lackey, Alexander Haig, for the presidency of the U.S." Other concerns include conservative investing and selling overpriced books to the readers.

THE WRESTLING OBSERVER NEWSLETTER 7/27/87 - 10/19/87 (\$5/4 issues from Dave Meltzer, PO Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228): All the news you ever wanted to know about pro wrestling -- All the different circuits -- and then some. Dave gets reports of matches from all over the country and keeps track of the personalities and the hype associated with them. A surprisingly dedicated publication for such a fringe sport. Dave's readers are a vocal bunch, and the lettercol gets a tad argumentative at times. The 9/7 issue contains an informative comparison between the two major wrestling promoters, Titan Sports and Jim Crockett Promotions, while in October we can follow the heating up of their competition for Thanksgiving viewers. There's also been a continuing series on prospects for this year's Wrestling Awards. Finally, the 10/19 ish reports on a wierd existential Japanese circuit match in a deserted jungle.

WRITERS EXCHANGE 6 (\$5/yr from Gene Boone, PO Box 394, Society Hill, SC 29593): An avenue into the literary and poetry small press markets. The main activity in WE is contests; Gene sponsors them for short prose and various forms of poetry, and prints the results here. He also announces various other contests and a few markets looking for work.

WRITER'S INFO Vol. 3 #9-10 (\$1 from Linda Hutton, PO Box 2377, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814): Sort of a combination market guide and support network for the beginning writer. Linda manages to list loads of markets and contests in each issue, and fills out with success (and otherwise) stories from other beginners. Sometimes these have helpful hints; other times, the message is just "keep trying". WI also publishes short poetry.

WRPI PROGRAM GUIDE Spring '87 (On request from 1 WRPI Plaza, Troy, NY 12180): A college station guide [my college, in fact] with a bit of meat to it. Oh, sure, the endless descriptions of shows all playing the most eclectic music you can imagine does take up a lot of space, but there's also a chat with Eugene Chadbourne, a discussion of the Institutes electronic music program, and a smattering of reviews. A good bet if you live close by, marginal outside the area.

X-CLAIM #2 (50 cents from Chuck Miller, 101 E. Wilmont Ave., Somers Point, NJ 08244): I'm sure postage money would be appreciated since this is a fairly hefty baby. X-CLAIM is a pfanzine that consists mostly of interviews, printed in hand-drawn borders and with a relaxed, chatty feel to them, unlike the relentless plugola you find som eplaces. Agnostic Front, Marginal Man, and Dr. Know feature prominently in #2.

YEAH! #4 (SASE (?) from PO Box 85256, Seattle, WA 98145-1256): Free locally, this slim pfanzine might be of interest to those of you in the Seattle area for the listing of upcoming club and band schedules. Other than that about the only content in this issue is a review of a recent Accused show. Looks like they're trying to start a freebie music paper from scratch with a laser printer; good luck...

YHOS 39-40 (The Usual from Art Widner, 231 Courtney Lane, Orinda, CA 94563): Well, except for the fact that he trades iwth me, Art is publishing a traditional sfanzine, and doing a damned fine job of it. Particularly nice is the "Fannish Geography" series, featuring long-time fen writing about fannish activities in their locales. Also of interest in #40 is Tom Whitmore's exposition of large-convention security. The lettercolumn is a nice selection of thoughts on strange letterheads, as Art reproduces rather than recopies.

YIPES! #14 (\$1 from Ken Cousins, 9911 Goff Rd., Temperance, MI 48182): A pfanzine that needs to learn a few things about coherence if it wants to be popular. There is some good stuff buried in here, notably a discussion of the co-option of punk culture and an interview with Rhythm Pigs, but it's mainly lost in confused page jumps and marginal typing.

YONI BLUESMAIL (SASE (?) from Brian C. Clark, 1504 Robinson Ave. #4, San Diego, CA 92103-4533): A single-sheet devoted to the AIDS problem, argued from a homosexual and civil-rights position. The authors, writing under various pseudonyms, argue for health being considered as a rights issue and present a short bit of fiction from a concerned person. I think.

ZERO #2 (\$2 from PO Box 2436, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130): A nice art magazine with a bizarre color photocopy cover. By "art" I mean mainly comics, though they do include collage and computer-graphics and things on the edge of being prose with illustrations instead of vice versa. The common denominator seems to be strange things wrong with the world, and reading

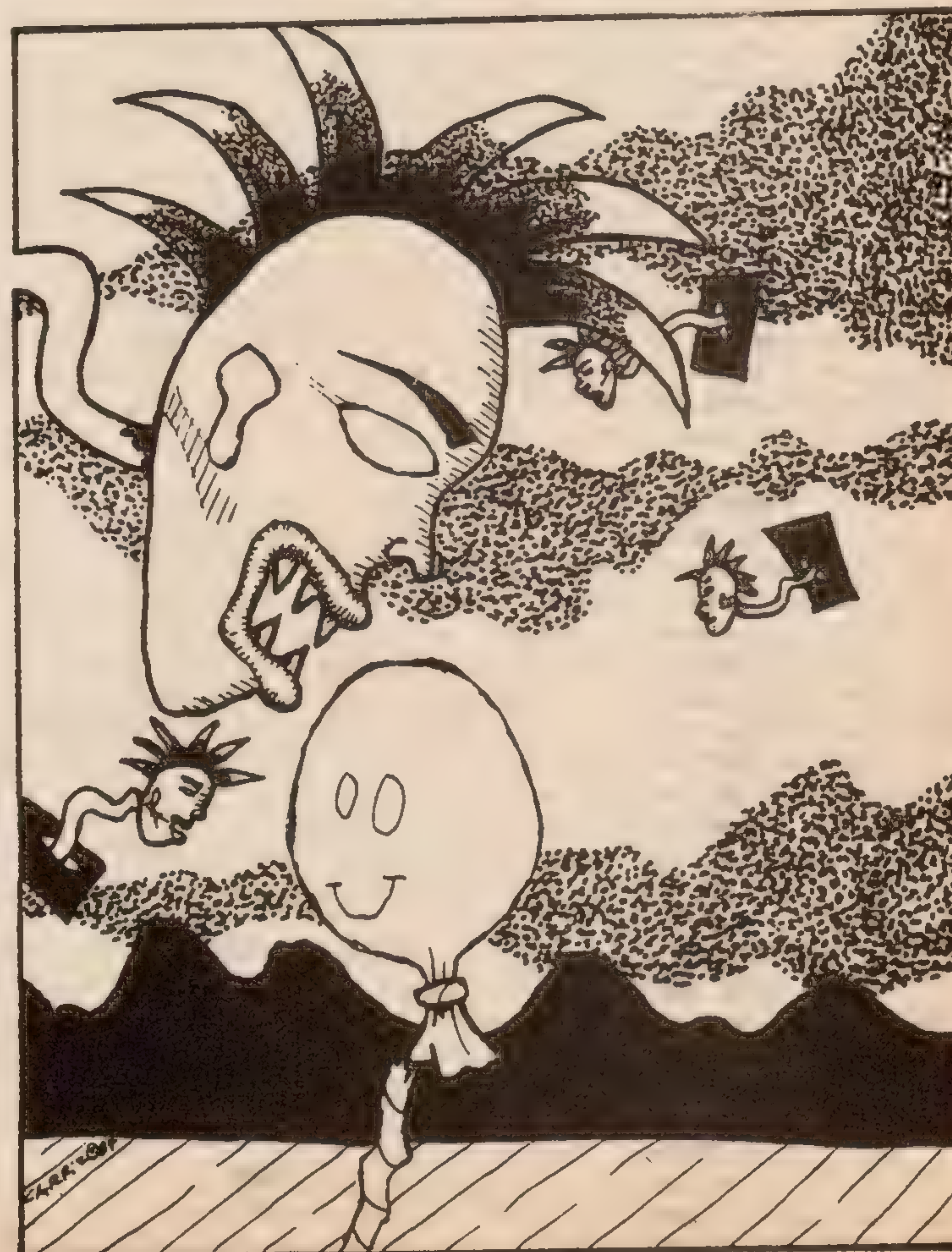
ZERO is profoundly disquieting. Includes sexually explicit images, including a quit disturbing safe sex comic.

ZETETIC SCHOLAR #12/13 (\$15/yr from Department of Sociology, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI 48197): The organ of the Center for Scientific Anomalies Research, a respectable organization that lies between National Enquirer sensationalism and the thought-police approach of CSICOP in its consideration of the paranormal. The 200 pages of this double issue are far too much to summarize, but there's respectable philosophy of science, an ethical look at a recent psi hoax by the Amazing Randi, thoughts on being skeptical without being a debunker, guides to the literature, and much, much more. Mammoth and very well done but not likely to attract too many believers because the editors refuse to come down on any side without evidence.

Z MISCELLANEOUS Vol. I #3 (\$4 from PO box 20041, New York, NY 10028): A massive (142 heavy 8 1/2 x 11 pages) mostly-literary zine with a few surprises thrown in, like an artistic chapbook tucked into #3. Besides tons of poetry and a few stories there are letters, consumer reviews, non-fiction, and other bits of writing -- this looks like a market for just about everything. Names that stand out in this issue include Arroyo, Lifshin, Manachino, and Coleman, but there are hundreds more. A mammoth and impressive undertaking, with a serious tone and a lot of good writing.

ZOIKS! #6 (\$1 from Skip Elsheimer, 604 Dixie Trail, Raleigh, NC 27607): Actually, the sixth issue, as each copy has an individual number; mine is #94. Confused? I am. Anyhow, this issue is mostly comics and art, with the start of Donald Stroud's "Prune Man" superhero strip being the most promising. Bob Bauhaus also manages an interesting downer piece rife with big black areas.

ZOMBIE TRAIN #7 (50 cents from 1822 Blake St., Berkeley, CA 94703): This one starts in the pfanzine arena and then branches out. You can see it as anchored by the live show and record reviews, then growing into poetry and political pieces in an effort to apply the punk ethos outside of music. Particularly well done are the graphic layout, the anti-MacDonalds page, and the "Cut the military - rebuild the country" poster.



ADULT VIDEO'S Looking For Something DIFFERENT?

We have a wide variety of SPECIALTY tapes from the Bizarre to the SUBDUED. Our tapes are a MUST for every Adult Video Collector! Top Quality Tapes, Satisfaction GUARANTEED!

Request FREE Catalogue From:

Q.C.S. FREE OFFER

Q.C.S.

P.O. BOX 27

HAMMOND, IN. 46325

5

OVER

21

ONLY

40



Movers and Shakers

Don Webb

Interviewed by Don Webb

Introduction:

Don Webb, a fat man, has published in more than 60 magazines large and small in the U.S., U.K., Canada, Norway, France, and India. I found him in his Austin apartment playing Mah-Jongg with his lovely wife Rosemary. He seemed annoyed at the intrusion as he was going for a 40-point concealed hand. He became more relaxed when I came fully in focus. He even signed the old copy of ASIMOV'S I brought along.

DW: Can the small press change your life?

DW: Absolutely. You find out about things ignored by the mass media (like Big Mountain), you observe completely different mind sets cheaply and safely (fringe science, new approaches to politics and philosophy), you're dazzled by an array of verbal visual styles you can't find in B. Dalton's (SCORE, LIGHTWORKS, LIVE FROM THE STAGGER CAFE), and you make friends (Kyle Hogg, Misha Chocholak, etc., etc.). You don't meet people in THE NEW YORKER.

DW: You don't write much political stuff. Why?

DW: I figure the places that would print it have already got enlightenment. Maybe someday. Bruce Sterling has incorporated a lot of Bob Black's philosophy in his soon-to-be published ISLANDS IN THE NET. Strong idea(1)s do prevail.

DW: Do you look upon the small press as a "training ground"?

DW: Although that's one of its functions, I won't accept the notion that small press work is inherently half-baked. There are 4000 fiction books published in the U.S. each year. 99% of these couldn't compete with NEW PATHWAYS, GRUE, WIND, ICE RIVER, or scores of others. As long as the big 3 publishers and big 2 bookstore chains use balance sheets to determine their actions -- you'll see over half of the best in the small press. A lot of innovative writers have sold well -- B.S. Johnson, for example -- but their work isn't snapped up immediately so it faces a hard path.

DW: Name five organizations you believe in.

DW: The ACLU, the International Book Project, Amnesty International, the Institute of Potential Literature (Oulipo), the Pel Torro Fan Club.

DW: The ACLU? Aren't they a bunch of commies?

DW: The ACLU champions the rights of underdogs...I can't think of anything more American. The right is possessed -- you can see it by the flags in their eyes. They use words (freedom fighters) without content and badges of loyalty. Maybe some real U.S. history courses would help.

DW: What is Oulipo?

DW: They are a group of crazy Frenchmen, founded by Raymond Queneau, interested in combining mathematics and literature. You'd be amazed what a little Matrix Algebra can

do to HAMLET. One of their original members was J.R. "Bob" Dobbs who went under the name of Andre' Blavier.

DW: Matrix algebra?

DW: Sure. One of Oulipo's members, Henry Matthews, devised a system. Take any story -- fit it into an $n \times n$ matrix. Take the diagonals of the matrix. The process can be carried out on any level -- words, sentences, plot elements. Take Shirley Jackson's THE LOTTERY as an example:

Tessie Hutchinson	who protests the lottery	is stoned.	We are shocked by such brutality.
Her neighbors	who decry the valley's abandonment of the lottery	silence the heretic.	Would we do the same?
Her children	who innocently gather stones	commit matricide unknowingly.	We think of Greek tragedy.
Her husband	who is embarrassed by his wife's protests	is probably better off at the end of the story	How do we treat those relatives who embarrass us?

The diagonals:

Tessie Hutchinson, who decries the valley's abandonment of the lottery, commits matricide unknowingly. How do we treat those relatives who embarrass us? Her neighbors, who innocently gather stones, are probably better off at the end of the story. We are shocked by such brutality. Her children, who are embarrassed by their wives' protests, are stoned. Would we do the same? Her husband, who protests the lottery, silences the heretic. We think of Greek tragedy.

DW: Now the heroine champions the lottery, which kills her own mother (and children). This technique can create new stories and throw light on old ones. The Oulipo are also interested in lipograms, combinations, recursive literature, multi-path stories, centos, factorial novels, computer-assisted literature, and much, much more. A good introduction to the movement is Warren F. Motte Jr.'s OULIPO.

DW: But aren't these just games?

DW: All writing has a game aspect. We're exposed to a lot of techniques without realizing they're techniques. Beginning - Middle - End is a technique. Important real life events don't happen that way; although, we've been taught to see them thusly. But all the games in the world won't save you if you don't have something to say.

DW: What's your #1 small press pet peeve?

DW: Writing something for an irregularly published

magazine that decides to fold and doesn't return my submission in its SASE.

DW: Name 5 books you've read and enjoyed lately.

DW: MOOD INDIGO by Boris Vian, THE MOVEMENT OF MOUNTAINS by Michael Blumlein, THE TELEPHONE BOOK by Ed Friedmann, THE COMPLEAT PRACTICAL JOKER by H. Allen Smith, URIEL FOR PRESIDENT by Franz Bergman.

DW: What games do you enjoy?

DW: Mah-Johngg, AD&D, miniature golf, pinball, hearts.

DW: The Pel Torro Fan Club?

DW: I was wondering how long it would take you to ask. Pel Torro aka Bron Fane aka Leo Brett aka John E. Muller aka Devero Spartacus aka Mel Jay aka Karl Ziegfried aka etc. is to SF what Edward D. "Plan 9 From Outer Space" Wood Jr. is to film. I own 6 of the over 100 novels he dictated and am always looking for more. He has been unjustly neglected -- like Ed Wood, flashes of originality illuminate the muck. I am

President of the International Pel Torro Fan Club. You can join by reading GALAXY 666 then sending me money. I won't send anything back so it's a Cosmic Awareness sort of thing.

DW: What are your future projects?

DW: My first full-length book, UNCLE OVID'S EXERCISE BOOK, is due from Fiction Collective in the fall; I'm currently at work on a surreal novel of my hometown Amarillo, Texas; a Chris Drumm booklet is due in the far future; and short stories in places reviewed by FF.

DW: Will you continue writing or will you get a real job?

DW: The best jobs -- copywriter at JerryCo and reporter at the WEEKLY WORLD NEWS -- seem to be taken, so I guess I'll keep writing. May I ask you a question?

DW: Sure.

DW: Do you play Mah-Johngg?

DW: A little.

DW: Sit down.

Turning Over New Leaves of Grass

by Kerry Wendell Thornley

"Charles" is a word I realized today I've been very confused about. "Charles," I've been thinking, signified Kissinger, because Charles Manson is allegedly a Kissinger agent. "Charles" signifies Stalinist or similar Bolsheviki -- because in high school I knew this guy named Charles Eskin ("Charles Is Kin") who always repeated the exact Stalinist partyline -- i.e. that Stalin was preferable to Hitler, etc. -- according to a training film they showed us in the Marines later on in my life. They also called Viet Cong soldiers "Charlie." "Charles Manson" was the communists outside, symbolically. Who the hell the first Charles was I've not guessed yet. Margaret Charles was a close lifelong friend of my mother's -- which may or may not be relevant.

Howard Hunt says (according to my understanding): I'm aborting an attempt to establish socialism in the U.S. until there is an honest investigation of the J.F.K. assassination (although I find his legal suits contrary to that end, not to mention my personal knowledge of him (if that is who Brother-in-Law was, of course)). And I wasn't being puritanical at the Sambo's in Tampa to support Puritans; I was trying to piss everybody off in order to get them killed. Not because I give a damn one way or the other (he adds) but because everybody else there was too much into the KGB -- except the gays. (End of Howard's message).

Further autopsy notes on the Solidarity movement: Pepsi-Cola conspiracy was involved. An oil company that was telling flattering lies about me was involved. "Sam" was involved. Tracy Barnes was involved. The point of the BENCHMARK notebook, the contents of which I revealed the day before Solidarity was crushed by Soviet military, was eventually bringing about the withering-away of the state and a communist society in Russia by creating working anarcho-syndicalism in Eastern Europe -- an idea based on a pamphlet issued by Solidarity Bookstore (I.W.W.) in Chicago pointing to the class-conscious nature of the so-called "counter-revolutions" in Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

What happened at that Sambo's afterwards -- after they gave that data to the Russians (allegedly for puritanical reasons) -- was that they organized a very rightwing authoritarian monetary mutualist "club."

They say the reason they were puritanical was because the sexual freedom people -- who were behind Solidarity -- were getting laid in order to avoid an honest probe of the Martin Luther King assassination, or avoiding a probe in order to get laid. Liberating Poland was necessary to get the Pope out from under Russian domination -- presumably so there could be an honest investigation of both the J.F.K. and M.L.K. murders.

So I find the information I get leading in circles.

Charles Eskin's best friend was John Barbova -- both of them were practically geniuses. They attended North Hollywood

High School. Our idea of a good time was to go to the school library and read the cartoons in THE NEW YORKER.

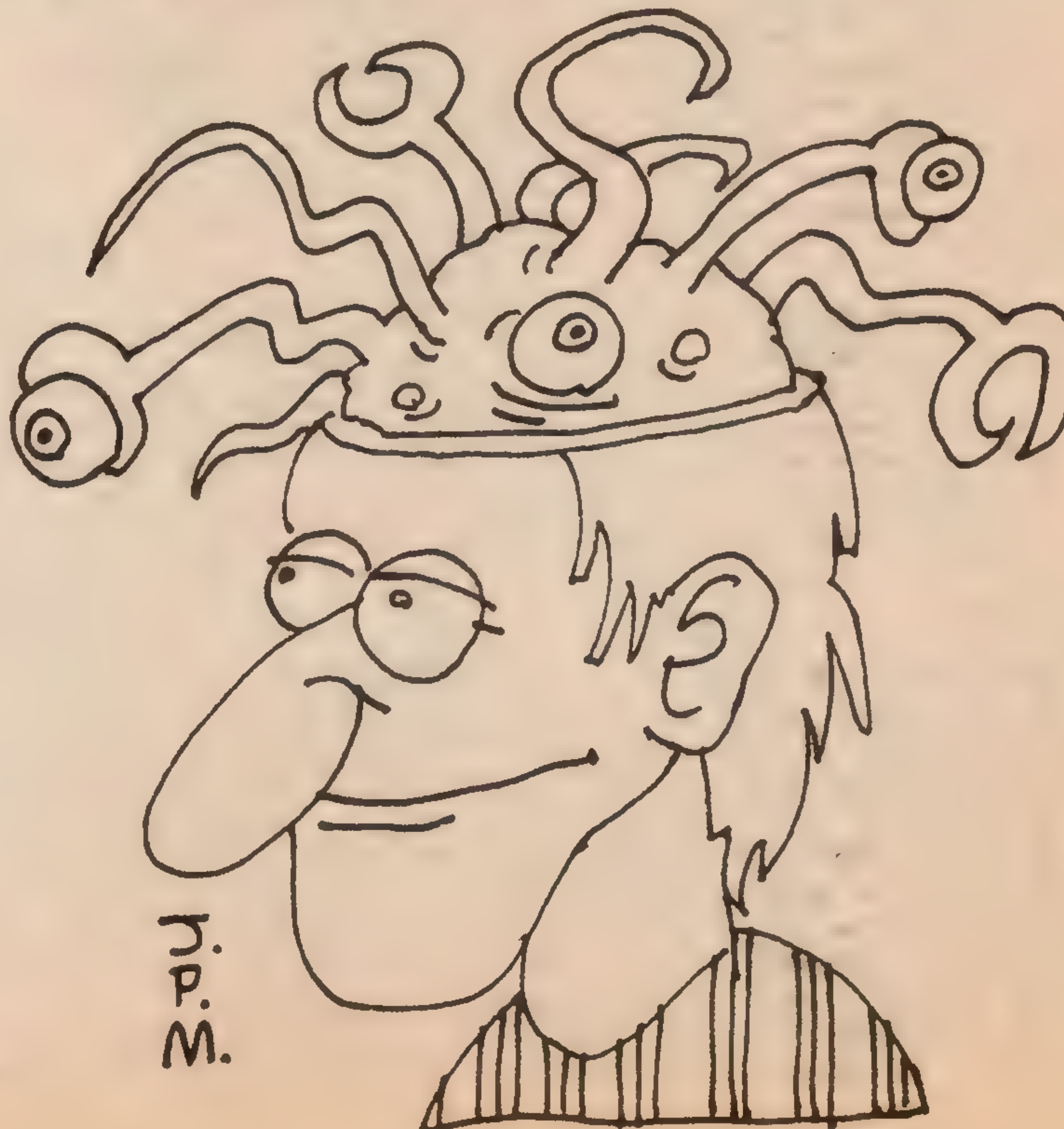
I was also going to write an essay about how capitalism could be destroyed, via individualist anarchism, in America -- by the Russians, in revenge for the BENCHMARK series -- hoping that both strategies would be adopted -- but before I go around to it, F. made me leave because I kept postponing cleaning the patio. (I guess she wanted to "Saint Louis" it. I guess I should have.)

The C.C.I. -- an almost anarchistic Communist organization that supports Rockefeller (optimistically, I'm told by Sanford) -- constantly blocks investigating Hunt's role in the assassination -- as does the Assassination Investigation Bureau in Boston -- to the point (as Weberman proved) of doctoring the tramp photos of Hunt and Sturgis in police custody in Dealy Plaza -- 22 November 1963. Sprague of the A.I.B. went so far as to cut the negatives so as to give Sturgis Hunt's ears and vice versa. Fortunately, the original undoctored photos appeared in the Dallas newspapers in November of 1963. So Weberman was able to prove his charges conclusive. The A.I.B. is said to be a member of the C.C.I.

One of the things The Conspiracy always taught me in my Libertarian education under Murray Rothbard, et al., is that ignorance of the origins of past wars is the principle cause of future wars. So I do not view lightly the tampering of evidence related to the historical record.

They asked for it; they got it!

[Aeditor's note: previous installments of TURNING OVER NEW LEAVES OF GRASS appeared in FF20, FF22 and FF23. If you like Kerry's speculations and want to read more, his collected work NOTES OF A NEON GRINGO is available for \$3 postpaid.]





by Bob Grumman

ACCESS #1 (\$4 (?) from Paperbird Press, 5014 Huron St., College Park, MD 20740) is "a journal of post-literature" which this time up is devoted to Karl Kempton, prominent otherstream poet/artist. Its centerpiece is Kempton's "deep/ square/ wave/ structure," a sequence of visual images built of typography which translate computer flow-charts, circuit boards, DNA maps, archaeological charts, chemical equations and the like back into the kind of poetry science used to be when alchemists did it. The sequence also includes short "normal" poems, some of them mordantly anti-technomania. It is prefaced by a fine essay on its author by editor/poet/critic Harry Polkinhorn and followed by a revealing interview of Kempton by the editors of ACCESS. The result is a commendable addition to current verbo-visual art.

AFTER THE END #2 (\$1 (?) from Greg Evason, 4 Dundonald St., Toronto, ONT M4Y 1K2, CANADA) is a thrown-together 8-pager of xerographics, visual literature and textual poems. Most of the latter are by Pete Vainola, a sort of breezy street-talking spouter in the style of Charles Bukowski who writes of such topics as an "old tin rainbow" and blowing his nose. His best, "A Suitcase Ago" lives up to the lingeringly mellowing freshness of its title. The editor contributes some tacky but funny cartoons and other stuff, and includes two excellent pieces by jwcurry, one that seems to be an image of a molecule which has lost its electrons and nuclei but retained its bonds; it is called, "The Atomic Structure of Silence."

ANTI-ISOLATION #3/4 (\$2.50 from Xexoxial Editions, 1341 Williamson St., Madison, WI 53703) is both a fine state-of-the-art collection of xerographic collages and similar work, and an excellent directory of the "megazines" that are currently being put out like the ones in this column. Each is thoughtfully reviewed by Miekal And, Liz Was, Sardyb or Aroshn. Books and audio cassettes are treated too. ANTI-ISOLATION is a good entry into the wilder currents of the otherstream.

GENERATOR #1 (\$4 from John Byrum, 8139 Midland Rd., Mentor, OH 44060) seems to me first-rate (although I might be biased as I have a critical essay on a Liz Was book in it). It starts arrestingly with a cover in black & white by Crag Hill that seems in the act of generating language -- and an almost orogenic three-dimensionality as well. The pieces on the inside consist of generally top-notch specimens of textuality, visuality, and the two combined, including provocative pieces by well-known "language poet" Charles Bernstein, one in collaboration with Susan Bee which features Spiderman. Conclusion: GENERATOR expresses about as completely as any periodical I've seen the full range of the newest kinds of poetry.

INDUSTRIAL SABOTAGE #39 (\$20 from jwcurry, 729a Queen St. E., Toronto, ONT M4M 1H1, CANADA) consists of 12 hand-signed, one-page poems by twelve different artists which jwcurry has beautifully silkscreened on high-grade paper in a numbered edition of 75. The poems' texts are minimal, but each also is, or contains something, pictorial, sometimes in color. None is not worth a patient scan. Just one example: Wharton Hood's "I" with one squarish dot above it, and a second affixed to one side of it...to suggest what? Pregnancy? Cancer? Indistinguishable ultimate units forming high-identified letters? Whatever, the point is that Hood's poem, and the other pieces in the magazine, prod one into significantly refeeling language. Curry's magazine is thus worth its price.

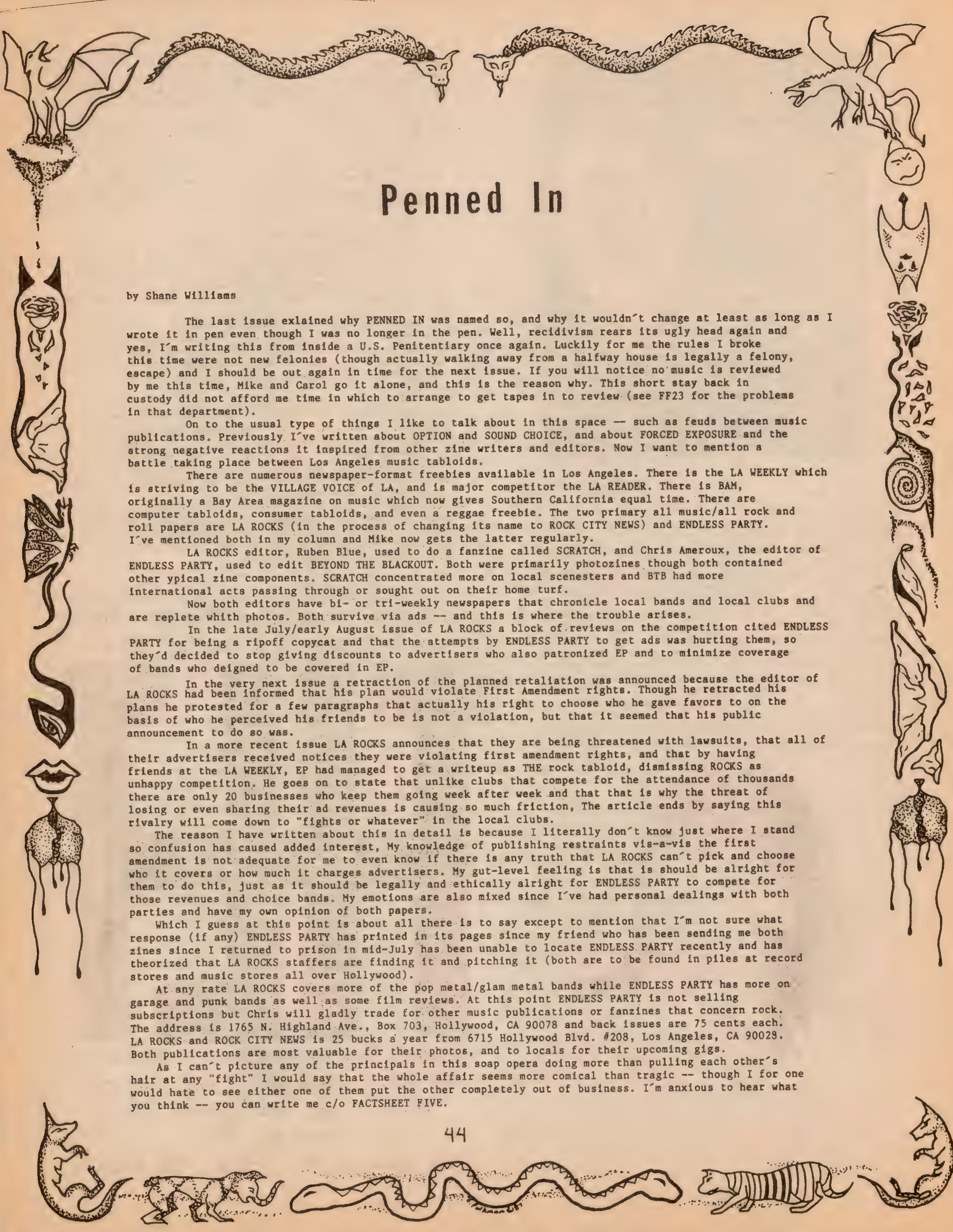
INDUSTRIAL SABOTAGE #40 (\$2.50 from jwcurry, 729a Queen St. E., Toronto, ONT M4M 1H1, CANADA) wonderfully complements IS 39 as it is as unfancy as the latter is opulent. Each copy of it consists of 17 wadded-up, fairly straightforward haiku in a little film canister. Almost all of them unscramble into worthily resonant locales. Take Gerald E. Smith's effort, which seems to me representative of the collection: "her face/ the early bird/open window". Simple? Yes. A face (but HERS) looking perhaps out a window at a bird. Her face out of whose window an early bird looks. Morning. Openness. The Predatory Female. And a multitude of so ons which are what make the best haiku and why the form has endured as long as it has.

THE SUBTLE JOURNAL OF RAW COINAGE #1 (22-cent stamp from G. Huth, 715 Watkins Road #A9, Horseheads, NY 14845) is a small broadside containing 8 words coined in this century by such wordsmiths as James Joyce, John Ciardi, Anthony Burgess and somebody named Grumman. (The other wordmakers are jwcurry, Miekal And, Didier Mouliner and Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.) Geof Huth, the word-mad finder of these words, has arranged them into a wonderful poem for which he has coined the title, "Anotherwords". Its subject is the "abginningz" and development of the "chaosmos". I can't imagine anyone with an authentic love of words not being delighted with Huth's creation. And his just-sprung press promises more of the like, so do send him a stamp or two.

THIS IS IMPORTANT #13 (SASE (?) from F.A. Nettelbeck, c/o Illuminati, PO Box 67E07, Los Angeles, CA 90067) is a doubly-folded piece of paper with poems on both sides. "TRIVIAL PURSUIT," by Loris Essary begins it: "she comes in italics/you notice the hole/in your shoe". In its sardonic humor (note how, for example, its "hole" disconnects from coming to become part of a shoe) and art-versus-coarseness texture (here its haiku form versus its subject matter), "TRIVIAL PURSUIT" seems representative of the contents of this and other issues of TII. Anselm Hollo, Chris Toll, Ron Kolm and Flora Dunham contribute equally amusing brief works. THIS IS IMPORTANT is hard not to like.

VELOCITY #8 (\$9 from Christian Herman, 4350 McPherson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108) is a "contributor-sponsored" collection of generally excellent mail art, some of it in color. An annex of visual art by Mimi Holmes which ranges from elegant impressions of the Artist and Time to cheerily humorous, down-to-earth documentations mostly photographic of the artist as Kudzu Queen is by itself worth the price of a copy. Close to 40 other visual artists and poets also contributed to this issue, some of them, like Bern Porter, quite well known. This particular issue also contains reviews (some by me) but subsequent numbers will be reviewless. VELOCITY is well worth looking into, especially for those who might wish to participate in the current mail art scene.





Penned In

by Shane Williams

The last issue explained why PENNED IN was named so, and why it wouldn't change at least as long as I wrote it in pen even though I was no longer in the pen. Well, recidivism rears its ugly head again and yes, I'm writing this from inside a U.S. Penitentiary once again. Luckily for me the rules I broke this time were not new felonies (though actually walking away from a halfway house is legally a felony, escape) and I should be out again in time for the next issue. If you will notice no music is reviewed by me this time, Mike and Carol go it alone, and this is the reason why. This short stay back in custody did not afford me time in which to arrange to get tapes in to review (see FF23 for the problems in that department).

On to the usual type of things I like to talk about in this space -- such as feuds between music publications. Previously I've written about OPTION and SOUND CHOICE, and about FORCED EXPOSURE and the strong negative reactions it inspired from other zine writers and editors. Now I want to mention a battle taking place between Los Angeles music tabloids.

There are numerous newspaper-format freebies available in Los Angeles. There is the LA WEEKLY which is striving to be the VILLAGE VOICE of LA, and its major competitor the LA READER. There is BAM, originally a Bay Area magazine on music which now gives Southern California equal time. There are computer tabloids, consumer tabloids, and even a reggae freebie. The two primary all music/all rock and roll papers are LA ROCKS (in the process of changing its name to ROCK CITY NEWS) and ENDLESS PARTY. I've mentioned both in my column and Mike now gets the latter regularly.

LA ROCKS editor, Ruben Blue, used to do a fanzine called SCRATCH, and Chris Ameroux, the editor of ENDLESS PARTY, used to edit BEYOND THE BLACKOUT. Both were primarily photozines though both contained other typical zine components. SCRATCH concentrated more on local scenesters and BTB had more international acts passing through or sought out on their home turf.

Now both editors have bi- or tri-weekly newspapers that chronicle local bands and local clubs and are replete with photos. Both survive via ads -- and this is where the trouble arises.

In the late July/early August issue of LA ROCKS a block of reviews on the competition cited ENDLESS PARTY for being a ripoff copycat and that the attempts by ENDLESS PARTY to get ads was hurting them, so they'd decided to stop giving discounts to advertisers who also patronized EP and to minimize coverage of bands who deigned to be covered in EP.

In the very next issue a retraction of the planned retaliation was announced because the editor of LA ROCKS had been informed that his plan would violate First Amendment rights. Though he retracted his plans he protested for a few paragraphs that actually his right to choose who he gave favors to on the basis of who he perceived his friends to be is not a violation, but that it seemed that his public announcement to do so was.

In a more recent issue LA ROCKS announces that they are being threatened with lawsuits, that all of their advertisers received notices they were violating first amendment rights, and that by having friends at the LA WEEKLY, EP had managed to get a writeup as THE rock tabloid, dismissing ROCKS as unhappy competition. He goes on to state that unlike clubs that compete for the attendance of thousands there are only 20 businesses who keep them going week after week and that that is why the threat of losing or even sharing their ad revenues is causing so much friction. The article ends by saying this rivalry will come down to "fights or whatever" in the local clubs.

The reason I have written about this in detail is because I literally don't know just where I stand so confusion has caused added interest. My knowledge of publishing restraints vis-a-vis the first amendment is not adequate for me to even know if there is any truth that LA ROCKS can't pick and choose who it covers or how much it charges advertisers. My gut-level feeling is that it should be alright for them to do this, just as it should be legally and ethically alright for ENDLESS PARTY to compete for those revenues and choice bands. My emotions are also mixed since I've had personal dealings with both parties and have my own opinion of both papers.

Which I guess at this point is about all there is to say except to mention that I'm not sure what response (if any) ENDLESS PARTY has printed in its pages since my friend who has been sending me both zines since I returned to prison in mid-July has been unable to locate ENDLESS PARTY recently and has theorized that LA ROCKS staffers are finding it and pitching it (both are to be found in piles at record stores and music stores all over Hollywood).

At any rate LA ROCKS covers more of the pop metal/glam metal bands while ENDLESS PARTY has more on garage and punk bands as well as some film reviews. At this point ENDLESS PARTY is not selling subscriptions but Chris will gladly trade for other music publications or fanzines that concern rock. The address is 1765 N. Highland Ave., Box 703, Hollywood, CA 90078 and back issues are 75 cents each. LA ROCKS and ROCK CITY NEWS is 25 bucks a year from 6715 Hollywood Blvd. #208, Los Angeles, CA 90028. Both publications are most valuable for their photos, and to locals for their upcoming gigs.

As I can't picture any of the principals in this soap opera doing more than pulling each other's hair at any "fight" I would say that the whole affair seems more comical than tragic -- though I for one would hate to see either one of them put the other completely out of business. I'm anxious to hear what you think -- you can write me c/o FACTSHEET FIVE.

In a related but separate topic that will help me segue into yet another topic I will add that Ruben at LA ROCKS has had kind of a kneejerk reaction to a playful anti-glam campaign that FACTSHEET FIVE artist Carrie is carrying out. She and I and who knows who else without even knowing it are all part of the ANTI GLAM FACTION -- designed to ridicule the growing number of glam bands and followers in Hollywood. As noted last FF a wave of bands imitative in sound and looks of Aerosmith, NY Dolls, or early 70's Stones have become popular -- some even getting major label deals. My problem isn't with their music as long as they stay towards the grungier side of things and don't go pop metal a la Bon Jovi (which of course is the direction they're nudged once they're on a major label) -- but with the overall conservatism of the whole fad in that a glam uniform has proliferated and the more challenging bands are ignored by those who can't see through all their dyed black hair. I suppose it's no more mindless than generic thrash and the way in which many hardcores have uniforms and aren't interested in bands outside their genres. But for various reasons I find it more offensive. And for Carrie, whose favorite genre gloom was supplanted by glam (Rock Club DJs actually had a Death of Gloom party when they changed a club name and started playing Ratt and the Crue and stopped playing Joy Division and Sisters of Mercy) it is even a bigger deal. So anyways Carrie began putting up anti-glam flyers in strategic Hollywood locations and immediately LA ROCKS reprinted one with their added blurb that "This message brought to you by Americans for a More Conservative Society." The message read "Glam - Just Say No". Like I said, no sense of humor.

Which leads me to the fact that not only are glam bands reviving the 70's but various punk rock, garage punk, art damaged and other genres are also doing covers of 70s songs. One of my favorite groups, the Pontiac Brothers, do "Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap" -- an AC-DC song. Scream, a DC punk band, does "Green-Eyed Lady", soft rock by Sugarloaf. The list goes on and on, and not only cover versions -- entire groups are now proud to sound like Deep Purple and Mountain, DC3 being the first to come right out and say so. So what is all this leading up to? What else but a revival of the early 76-78 punk sound. The most recent Sonic Youth LP has a song "Hot Wire My Heart" which was originally done by Crime in '78, Crime being one of the first punk bands out of the Bay Area and one of the first bands whose punk singles became collectibles after they split without ever putting out an entire LP. They made a splash by performing at San Quentin prison in police uniforms.

Let's hear it for the punk rock revival -- and let's all write Sonic Youth and tell them not to bother recording their version of the Beatles' White Album, as they've often threatened to do, but go right ahead and put out their own take on some seminal punk LP. I heard their encore at a recent gig was all Ramones songs anyway.

Another thing I'd like to do in PENNED IN is plug the radio stations that play good alternative rock that have

helped keep me sane. So right now I'm going to list some addresses and note that anyone sending us review music should send copies to these stations too since they'll play it:

KCSB (University of California at Santa Barbara) - PO Box 13407, Santa Barbara, CA 93107. (For alternative rock attn: Jay Hinman or Eric Stone)

KSPC (Pomona College) - 340 N. College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711.

KXLU (Loyola Marymount) - 7101 W. 80th St., Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Andrea Enthel (Ex underground columnist for SPIN, has a 6-hour show on Pacifica station KPFA) - PO Box 4904, Panorama City, CA 91412.

Now for the stuff in the mailbag:

Cause and Effect have their '87 catalog out with whole paragraph descriptions of their art and copies of the cover art too. The label who brings you industrial sex mistress Debbie Jaffe so what are you waiting for? PO Box 30383, Indianapolis, IN 40230.

Home Recordings have a cassette catalog. Looks like the type of variety and attitude you'd expect from the name. A compilation called "Passed Normal" has Shockabilly and Snakefinger as well as the Home Recordings artists like Sediments and Voodoo Mark. PO Box 4071, Bloomington, IL 61702.

Sound of Pig has a new update out and still offers a free catalog to all who're interested to write. They're at the forefront of industrial and experimental releases. Al Margolis, 28 Bellingham Lane, Great Neck, NY 11023.

Splattered Brains has a flyer out for its releases -- another new label of experimental music that looks to be a subsidiary of Gravelvoice Records since they share an address. PO Box 2271, Bloomington, IN 47401.

Immaculate Productions wrote us to say they're looking for bands to promote in Australia -- so write 'em at Mr. Segreto, 113 Avenue Road, Mosman 2088, Sydney AUSTRALIA. They claim to be non-profit and are also interested if you want to distribute Aussie bands over here.



J. Fringe

In the grand tradition of The New Yorker, National Lampoon, and Hustler, Here's...



Fiction, Poetry, Comics, & Features

All About America's Trash Culture

Three-issue subscriptions: \$5

Samples: \$2

737 Wharton St., Phila., PA 19147



Currently undergoing physical therapy after heart by-pass surgery resulting from a heart attack caused by stress I am well aware of the problems within this community but have found a solid stone wall in trying to have those problems recognized and addressed.

Without question this has, in the words of the eminent psychiatrist Thomas S. Szasz, become THE THERAPEUTIC STATE, with every social dysfunction relegated to the channels of so-called "Mental Health" as if "cures" can be found within individuals when the ills lie within the society and within the policies of our several agencies, government and private.

It is noteworthy that during the farm crisis in which many of us still find ourselves we do not find the psychiatrists, social workers or mental health "freaks" (as I call them) taking the initiative to work for effective change of those policies resulting in poverty in the midst of plenty.

The significance of this is that those who supposedly are "qualified" to "help" the person under stress are those who themselves have excellent incomes and job security and lack the courage (which is an indicator of sound mental health) to confront those forces creating the stresses which are responsible for heart attacks and other physical breakdowns.

To begin with, pathological forms of stress are directly due to fundamental injustices lying right within our legal system, a system which presumably exists to insure that justice prevails within our society. It is the legal system which denies the very protections guaranteed under the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. This, not incidentally, is the paramount issue I presently have before the Iowa Supreme Court, the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States District Court.

The current orientation of the Iowa system of justice is repressive instead of emancipating, basing its rulings on archaic legal precedents instead of logic, common sense and a commitment to justice.

To expect a person such as myself, a person without legal training, to go into a jury trial situation without legal representation, to deny this basic right when the court realizes that (in my case) two trial lawyers possessing legal training and trial expertise will be my adversaries, is to make the greatest mockery possible out of any concept of fair play and justice.

In the realm of the physical sciences any person in the forefront of knowledge is honored and respected. This is not true on the social front, on the legal front, and every legal device is used to prevent this knowledge from being brought into the legitimate legal arena, lawyers especially, conditioned as they are by the fearful system to which they grovel, lack the courage, intelligence, education and creativity to commit themselves to assuring that justice is served.

What we have in existence are two self-serving forces, the legal establishment and the psychiatric establishment, both adamantly refusing to recognize the significance of their roles in creating and perpetuating those stresses which are burdening our citizens today.

Although from childhood we are taught that ignorance of the law is no excuse, the fact is that ignorance of the law is the most valid of excuses yet it is possible for a person to receive a Ph.D. in almost any discipline, especially in the field of education, and never once be exposed to education in the field of law. Please note that I am not counting so-called "business law" which has nothing to do with the practice of law in the sense of social justice, but is only a superficial device, a one-sided device -- by which the business community can use the courts to its exclusive advantage.

Let it not escape us that law libraries are not in fact open to the public and that vital legal reference materials are not available in the public libraries.

Let it also not escape us for one moment that the self-serving psychiatric establishment insulates itself from

participation in litigation, from voluntary litigation on behalf of overstressed citizens seeking redress for violations of both their civil and human rights, rights which are violated because of overt and covert discriminatory practices by our own community agencies.

Let it not escape us for one moment that we are bombarded with propaganda from the so-called "mental health" establishment yet are never provided with alternative points of view.

Even the public library here in Spencer does not carry the important books of Thomas S. Szasz -- PSYCHIATRIC JUSTICE, LAW, LIBERTY AND PSYCHIATRY -- nor those other supporting books which will enable the local citizen to gain a deeper understanding of the issues involved.

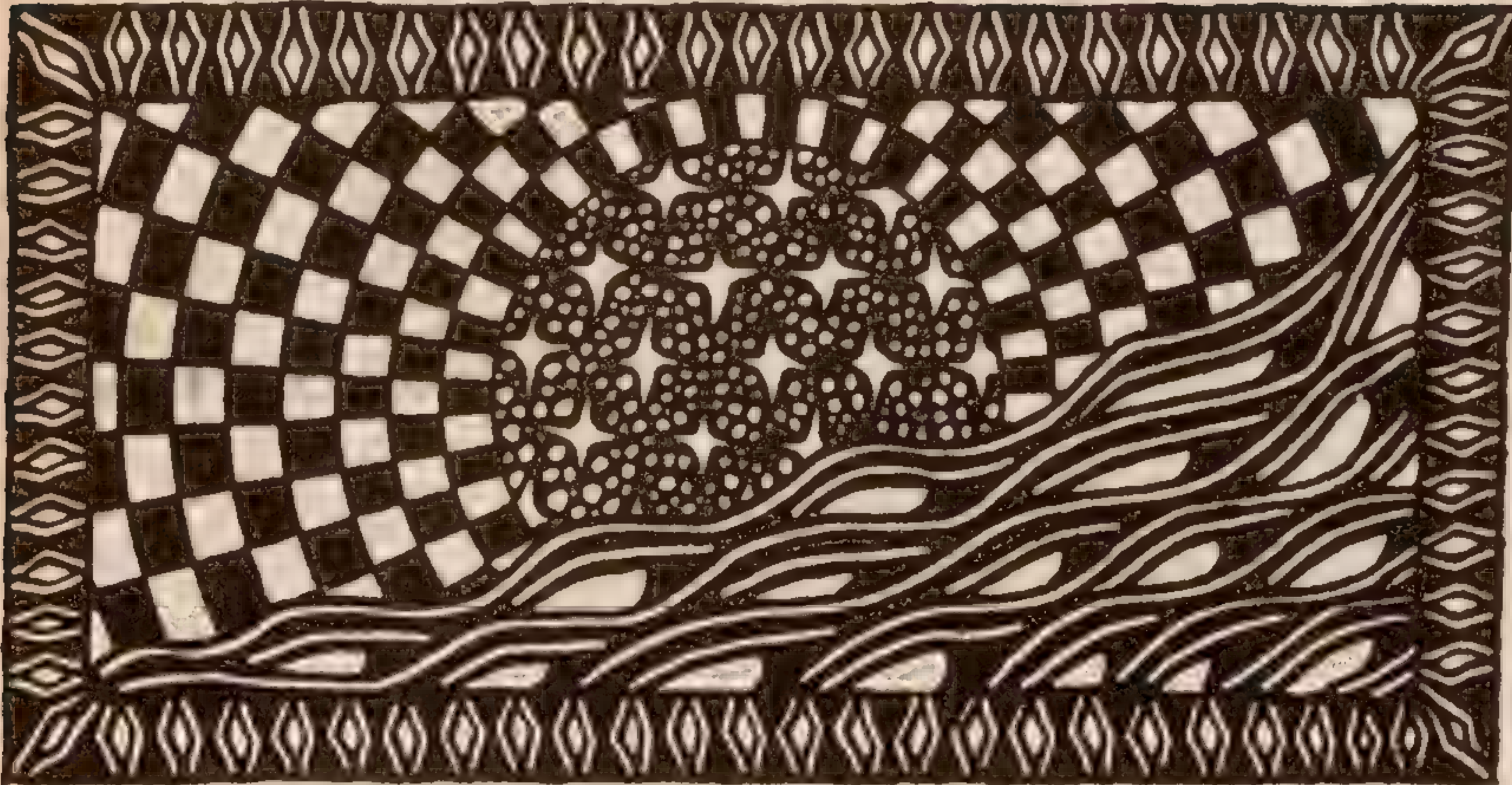
But let us not fail to recognize the complicity of the medical establishment in all of this sordid, self-serving filthiness. On the one hand abortion, which is in fact the taking of the life of an unborn child, is permissible and upheld by the courts and the medical practitioners. At the same time, one of the most vicious forms of de-facto child abuse -- routine infant circumcision -- is practiced daily without challenge from the courts or from the mental health establishment. The reason is because of fear -- fear of backlash from the religious community and in the case of the medical practitioner, there is the incentive to continue this practice because of the financial gain.

There is a man in jail today, Russell Zangger from Larchwood, who was entrapped by the postal authorities for sending literature through the mail critical of circumcision and describing the benefits of masturbation in preventing unwanted pregnancies and venereal disease. This, in America today. So it comes down to this -- abortion is not pornographic, but describing the horrors of circumcision is. Somebody is really screwed up and it appears it is the lawyers, the judges, the mental health people, the social workers and the medical practitioners.

These are classic examples of the repressive, causative agents of stress in this repressive society and the list goes on and on. Those who challenge these ills are ridiculed instead of respected and it is they who suffer the greatest stresses of all -- beginning with abuse from the community and ending with abuse at home.



POETRY



OBERC

Poetry reviews are by P.J. Bellomo (PJB) and The Aeditor (MG). Unless you specify otherwise, we'll divvy up your work at random.

ACCESS #1 (\$3.75 from Paperbird Press c/o Ruth Schowalter, 5014 Huron Street, College Park, MD 20740): Dedicated to "experimental word works or graphics," this new zine will feature a single person's work in each issue, supplemented by an introductory essay and a concluding interview. This first issue presents Karl Kempton's visual poetry. (And to be fair, I must point out that in part of the interview, on pp. 40-41, Mike gets bumped around a bit; consequently, if you question the open-mindedness of this review we'd love to hear your critical comments.) Anyway, Kempton's "Deep Square Wave Structure" is a mixture of typed words and typed images intended to probe the scientific and technological machine. Unfortunately, all the talk of energy failed to energize me at all. Some people like doing art, others like being artists: in addition to experiencing Kempton's DSWS, those interested should read both the essay and the interview for the clearest picture of what these artists are up to. (PJB)

AFTER THE END #S 1-4 (? from Greg Evason, Guardian Angel Press, 100 Pembroke Street, #1107, Toronto, Ontario M5A3Z1, Canada): Between issues 1 & 4 this zine made some dramatic format changes. In #1 there's 7 short poems and a short, short story; Samuel Joel's poem "curtains clouded the eyes" was a particularly unnerving piece. But in later issues, the poetry takes a back seat to graphics, and the graphic messages just don't come thru in these small reproductions. This fizzled. (Warning: current status unknown. Last issue, #4, published in March '86. Inquire before sending life's savings.) (PJB)

APA Renga 11 (\$5 from Box 429, Monte Rio, CA 95462): The fin is the minimum to open an account with this "subscriber written" zine based on the Japanese Renga form of poetry. An author starts a Renga by submitting the first verse with guidelines for the following verses. Readers then provide linking verses while adhering to the initial guidelines. In addition to Renga, there's bits of graphic art and a letters section. This is an altogether open and inviting forum for enthusiasts. (PJB)

ARROYO #2 (2 stamps or 50 cents from PO Box A-3597, Chicago, IL 60690): This is 10 photocopied pages of poems and graphics. The simple format was chosen precisely for its simplicity, and I'd say it's a success. Since the photocopier butchered the graphics, there's room for improvement in that regard. Otherwise, the package was enjoyable. The poetry came thru loud and clear, with Tina Phillips' "Michelangelo would be jealous" as a high point, or hot point. Hope to see more! (PJB)

BELLOWING ARK Vol. 3 #5 (\$2 from PO Box 45637, Seattle, WA 98145): Damned fine poetry. What stands out most about BA is their willingness to publish long pieces if they warrant publishing; much of this issue is filled with a one-act play and another installment of Nelson Bentley's epic poetic autobiography, a piece to savor. Of especial note, standing out with crystal clarity, is J. Bernhard's "Waiting for Sasha", a quiet poem of love and life told from the heart. (MG)

BOGG #57 (\$3 or \$8 for 3 issues from John Elsberg, 422 N. Cleveland St., Arlington, VA 22201): This literary zine covers the poetry arena in the U.S. & U.K. (Commonwealth). Included here are letters, editorial essays, several in-depth reviews, a few graphics, and many fine poems. In this issue there's a letter exchange between Jud Jerome and Elsberg regarding "vulgarity and poetry" which you won't want to miss. And of course, you won't want to miss the extensive display of diverse poetic talent. Before I get too bubbly let me simply say that this is a class production, one I highly recommend. (PJB)

Kenneth Leighton Brown, TALKS OF TOWN SUCCEEDED (\$5 from PO Box 1581, Bangor, Maine 04401): Most of this poetry is traditional, much of it rhyme & meter, and some standard 20th century prosaic stuff, all lambasted with alliteration. Though Brown is introspective, he speaks out to the world in this search of the self. My primary gripe with this poetry is that the rhyme and meter rarely continue in their rigor for the entirety of a poem; also, the prosaic poems occasionally read as nothing more than prose in poetic format. Beneath an often rough exterior, there's a love of life that just won't quit. Regrettably, this love seldom makes up for lost poetic ground. (PJB)

Anton Carrera, SNOWFALLS OF LIGHT (? from ?): This small pamphlet contains 8 short poems by Carrera in French, each accompanied by D. Sam Abrams' English translation. Although the poems - or at least the translations - read prosaically, the poetic element remains intact: "I am the persevering one who chooses conjecture with utmost precision, unhurried". The author composes these in a country setting, playing natural images off of a slow, quiet, and personal struggle for understanding. (PJB)

CLOSE COVER BEFORE STRIKING #2 (\$2 from Nancy Morrell, PO Box 889, Univ. Sta., Syracuse, NY 13210): A poetry zine sprinkled with a handful of graphics for balance. Although not always strong, the writing is consistently enjoyable; likewise for the graphics, with the exception of the frequently poor print quality. As a rule, I'd expect a little more for the \$2. Still, this is a zine that I'll be keeping my eyes on. (PJB)

DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES 17 (44 cents postage from David Kopaska-Merkel, 116 First St., Troy, NY 12180): A small collection of "fantastic and speculative poetry". Some of the imagery in #17 is bizarre indeed, and the choice of a lead poem from Lisa Kucharski is inspired, a poem that argues with the writer. John Grey's "Chinese Food, That Last Time" is a morbid little exercise in surprising the reader. Slim but fun. (MG)

Greg Evason, I USED TO BE A VEGETARIAN BUT FUCK THAT (50 cents (?) from Guardian Angel Press, 100 Pembroke St. #1107, Toronto, ONT M5A 3Z1, CANADA): A small chapbook of Greg's work, which combines surreal and unreal imagery with random swear words and pornographic statements apparently chosen for shock value. The meaning of statements such as "to taste wisdom is/to attain a special car" is buried too deep for me, I'm afraid. (MG)

Rod Farmer, UNIVERSAL ESSENCE (\$5.95 plus \$2 p/h from Brunswick Publishing Co., Route 1, Box 1-A-1, Lawrenceville, VA 23868): A spiritual imperative pervades this poetry; that is, a theme of wisdom and harmony a la Capra, et al., right down to the yin and yang symbol on the cover. Whitman is the poetic model, and Thoreau is the inspiration, but the genius of neither one ever surfaces. While he addresses crucial political, social, and intellectual problems, Farmer nonetheless lacks "originality" and vitality. An answer? We must slowly and cautiously build so we can see the God in all of us. At best, this is mundanely wholistic. (PJB)

FEH! #3 (3 stamps from Simeon Stylites, PO Box 82, Mount Royal, Quebec, H3P 3B8, CANADA): I don't know why there aren't more poetry magazines that publish the sort of material Simeon uses -- surely there must be reams of it available. Nevertheless, FEH! stands out like a squid in a pot of lobsters. What type of material? Oh, you know: the crude, the rude, the disgusting, the dirty, and above all, the hilarious. Lots of big words that mean naughty things, muck, mire, bodily functions and even a few limericks in this one. (MG)

Bob Heman, SOME FOOTNOTES FOR THE FUTURE (\$1 (?) from Luna Bisonte Prods, 137 Leland Ave., Columbus, OH 43214): The poetry of sound, as opposed to that of meaning. Bob strings together words, interesting ones like "it changes the statutory massacre into a wobbling gravy", but there's only

so much you can do without more than words. (MG)

John Holden (ed.), PERIPLUM (\$10 from Open Theatre, PO Box 422, Austin, TX 78767): This is an anthology comprised of the works of poets from Austin, Texas. There's familiar and unfamiliar voices here; and the performances are, in general, so polished that I hesitate to single any of them out. Artful editing has added an element of cohesion (damned if I can label it though) other than the common ties to Austin. Ten bucks is a trifle steep, but the book is put-together well. (PJB)

HOLLOWPOINT #1 (22 cent stamp from Mumbles Publications, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): Either poetry broadsides are increasing in popularity or they're just discovering FF. Either way, this one is "issued irregularly" and the first one contains two poems from John Eberly, replete with frantic, disjointed imagery. If you can't imagine a poem leading up to "Think about fire like a suit of new clothes" and making some sort of crazy rushing sense, you'll just have to send for your own copy. (MG)

THE LONE DERANGER (SASE from Bob Z., Artists & Writers Underground, c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): A mini-sized successor to SELECTED OOZE, still containing punkture but with the print more reduced. The poetry here is flanked with anti-system graphics and full of anger and upset stomachs and alienation, just like the youth of today. The antithesis of compacency. (MG)

Donald McLeod, SMALL TOWN BIG CITY (\$4 from All Night Press, 4733 Lemona Ave., Sherman Oaks, CA 91403): A collection of haiku and senryu by a person who spends some of his working hours as a gorilla. This doesn't seem to have affected his talent for capturing moods and images in short sharp poetry. This chapbook is divided into two, opening with quiet, contemplative poems about the country and then moving into jangling images of city life. The haiku are crisp and clear, arranged in sets of three or four like the notes of a haunting song. (MG)

Charley Moon, GREAT AUNT LESSIE BELLE'S FUNERAL (\$3.50 from Wowapi, 5746 Oram, Dallas, TX 75206): Charley writes blank verse in the form of diary entries about her family and life. There's some powerful stuff here, particularly in the title piece and its short sharp descriptions of people avoiding grief. But three and a half bucks for a twenty-page chapbook? (MG)

Todd Moore, DILLINGER'S FACES (vol. 2 of "Dillinger," \$5.95 from Kangaroo Court Publishing, 1505 State, Erie, PA 16501. Note the new prices: vols 1 & 2 both @ \$5.95 and 13-vol. boxed set @ \$65): This is the second part of Moore's epic poem about Dillinger (Alison reviewed part one in FF 22, p. 49). Written completely in the third person, it's never clear whether the speaker is Dillinger outside of himself or a poet who can get inside of Dillinger - an intriguing ambiguity. This eerie voice explores Dillinger's face while Dillinger explores faces. Generally, to glorify such a person is a somewhat dangerous practice; but here the life of the gangster seems to be a vehicle by which Moore can travel to that place where people encounter one another, in a variety of circumstances, face to face. Although the language breaks down in a couple of spots, the shortcomings stick-out only becuz everything else works so well. I found this poem captivating. (PJB)



TODD MOORE

...sent me a pile of publications from his road/house press. You can get a stack of these for a 6x9 envelope with 39 cents postage from Todd at 900 W. 9th St., Belvidere, IL 61008.

DANCIN' ON YOUR FINGERS, by Cheryl Townsend: Staccato rhythms of the bar and club scene illuminate Cheryl's poetry as she takes apart the people and presumptions that inhabit it. The images of desperate hunting for love are mixed with other poems about the fun of having it.

HEAVEN WITH A GUN, by Dennis Gulling: Yuck! I suppose that's a tribute to the power of Gulling's poems about people shooting, knifing, eating, running over, and otherwise killing other people. The motive ranges from love to revenge to thrills, but the result is mostly the same. More inhumanity than I really cared to read.

ON THE EDGE, by Ann Mennebroker: About the only point of reference for me here is the couple of historical mentions, of World War II and the Depression. They set the tone for these dreary works of social disintegration, but the poems just don't sing.

OUTLAW EYES, PISTOL WHIPPED, and TAKE NO PRISONERS [3 booklets] by Todd Moore: Todd's words tumble over each other and sometimes are reduced to abbreviations to keep the pace going in these poems of the criminals around and inside us. Punctuation and capitalization are similarly tossed aside in the need to get across the essential feelings, and he succeeds all too well in a few cases - I'm mildly nauseous just writing this review. Cruelty encapsulated.

TORN NYLON COMES WITH THE NIGHT, by John Elsborg: Images, rather than stories, populate John's short poems. Nothing here reached out and grabbed at me - a problem with poetry that deliberately seeks the mundane. (MG)

NEO #1-10 (SASE from Glenn Watkins, 605 13th St., Knoxville, TN 37916): A nice unassuming poetry zine growing out of the University of Tennessee. Each issue is only two 8 1/2 x 11 sheets, but the striking careful graphic designs and the choice of a few poems to showcase make them quite special. Each also concentrates on a single poet. I particularly liked the wistful works of Edie Rose and Steve Hampton's howls at an uncaring world. Small chewable monthly doses of poetry. (MG)

Andy Ostrowski, A No Press Broadside (SASE from 3205 N. Clark #405, Chicago, IL 60657): A single, brightly-colored sheet of poems. Andy writes of a deteriorating culture, loves that don't quite click and hates that do. No Press's series of broadsides is doing well to show off poets with a minimum of fuss; I hope they keep it up. (MG)

PUSH-MACHINERY #10 (? from Df.B, 551a Crawford, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M6G3J9): 7 pages of poems photocopied on legal sized paper and stapled in the corner. Don't be deceived by the shoddy appearance - i.e. what a rag! - becuz there's some talent here. B. Robinson's "This is not Beirut" is exemplary: "a dog dead/on Walmer Road/an old woman/howling/at a cocker spaniel god". A stamp or two oughta do it. (PJB)

Lorraine Schein, DEAD FROGS (OR, THE MAD BROWSER) (\$1 (?) from 41-30 46th St. #5A, Sunnyside, NY 11104): A chapbook that starts with serious moody pieces but can only keep up the facade for a few more than half of the pages before breaking into humor and silliness. The opening poems are good, particularly the curious "Level Five", a telling of actions in a sterile future society (perhaps - it's quite oblique), but naturally, I like the silly stuff best. My favorite is titled simply "Poem", and reads "Whenever you feel alienated/Remember God is there/Watching you on his TV set/While drinking beer, in his underwear". Brilliant. (MG)

SOLO FLYER #1 (\$3/8 issues from Spare Change Poetry Press, 2115 Clearview NE, Massillon, OH 44646): Successor to AMERICAN QUATRA FLYER, this one is likewise a single folded sheet of paper. Editor David McCoy is now spotlighting a single writer with each issue. In #1 it's Margaret Alder Eaves, who writes in a series of juxtaposed images, showing rather than stating emotions. (MG)

TAPES:

BAD NEWZ #2 (\$4 from Bob Z, Artists & Writers Underground, Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St., NY, NY 10010): Issue #2 of this cassette zine is called "Alternating Tensions" - a fitting title. If you fail to become part of this organized noise you'll simply become annoyed. It's punkture again, in the form of both music and poetry, and I personally enjoyed my ensuing headache. The poetry didn't do it for me, but some of the music was outstanding, with notable performances by Artistic Decline, Psycho-Dels, Radio Free Zone, A.P.P.L.E., Paranormals, and Fred Frith with his antagonistic guitar. (PJB)

OWEN SOUND, "Sign Language" (\$9.75 from Underwhich Editions, PO Box 262, Adelaide St. Stn., Toronto, ONT M5C 2J4, CANADA): With its innovative treatments of noise and voice, this cassette tape could have gone in the music section, but that was too crowded already, so it's here. This "Sound poetry ensemble" is mainly interested in performing and exploring the ways in which the human voice -- and occasional other noise sources -- can be used to entertain and mystify. Though one performer rails against "Los Angeles conceptual shit!" during the multi-tracked lead-off piece, on the whole this quirky, playful, confusing tape emerges as very conceptual indeed. But the concepts are not completely opaque; rather, one can feel one's mind being stretched by these clever madmen. (MG)

VERBAL CURIOS (\$3.50 from Jordan Gruener, Rhetoric Farm, PO Box 43171, Tuscon, AZ 85733-3171): A cassette of performers from Tuscon all doing their own versions of poetry & song. Side A was ho-hum, but nevertheless marked by a pair of fabulous bookends: it opened with D. Arnold singing B. Beaver's outrageous "Baboon's Butt" accompanied by percussion only; it closed with "Knife Idols," a long poem by Gruener, the best poetic effort on the tape. Side B fluctuated between entertaining and annoying, each performer contributing his fair share of both. These are indeed "curios," so this tape is for those who are attracted to the unusual and experimental. (PJB)

LATE ARRIVALS:

A couple of chapbooks that we'll review next time ought to be mentioned here:

* Denise Dumars, **SHEET LIGHTNING** (\$4 from Terata Publications, PO Box 810, Hawthorne, CA 90251): Densely interwoven imagery mainly drawn from the biological world, strangely entrancing stuff.

* Sharon Elker, Steven Morris & Carl Bettis, **DREDGING THE DEPTHS** (\$5.50 from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): 78 poems from a group associated with the **SLAPDASH HACKERY FACTORY** zine. If you like that, you'll like this. Sharon especially has a nice sense of modern rage.

POETRY NEWS:

* Dolphin-Moon Press (PO Box 22262, Baltimore, MD 21203) has announced the publication of Judson Jerome's **THE VILLAGE** as one of their next books. You can order a pre-publication copy for \$8, or become a patron for \$100. They also sent along **DOLPHIN-MOON NEWSLETTER #3**, an account of the current and future activities, which interested folks in the trade can probably get for an SASE.

* The Annual Horsepoem Competition, sponsored by Eileen Malone (1544 Sweetwood Dr., Colma, CA 94015) has an entry deadline of Dec. 31. \$2 fee per poem, equine themes only, \$50 top prize.

* Wendy's Stomach Press (c/o Greg Evason, 227 Franklin Ave., Toronto, ONT M6P 3Z4, CANADA) invites submissions of "typewriter poems" on 8 1/2 x 11 white paper for the next issue of **S.A.P.**; deadline November 30th, so you'll have to hurry.

BRAINBEAU WOULD BE

100% wrong like everyone else except that
he got a crack on the head back in '43.
For a must be adopted war-ending change
in war strategy send SASE to:

WINNERS LOSERS

Box 2243 Youngstown, OH. 44504 USA

"How to tell you how much YS means to me? Not hard at all. I just tell you how breathlessly I await each copy, how enthusiastically I tell my friends about it, how quickly I devour the contents. I have thoroughly enjoyed each copy since its first appearance in my mailbox... I thank you for sending YS to me so I can resubscribe to not only your magazine but to your philosophy of the erotic."

JOYCE WOODY
Lincoln Park MI

Yellow Silk

Journal of Erotic Arts



"All persuasions; no brutality."

W.S. Merwin • Ntozake Shange • Susan Griffin • Robert Silverberg • Mayumi Oda
Jean Genet • Tee Corinne • Pierre Louys
Wanda Coleman • Judy Dater • Marge Piercy • Jessica Hagedorn • William Kotzwinkle • Jane Hirshfield • Eric Gill
Victor Hernandez Cruz • Mary Mackey

YS, P.O. Box 6374, Albany CA 94706
\$15/year • Quarterly

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____



Edgar "Bolt" Upright, TALES OF THE SINISTER HARVEY:

Why publish? To cut through TV horseshit reality to something better -- something more personal. Let's face it -- the mass media in this country (with the possible occasional exception of NPR) has become as formula-boring as it can be, saturated by its own puce-juice like a sponge-head vertical in a tube o'gravy. Let the pinx swim and glubber through that glop all they like -- we swing from gutters at 4AM and spill that purple GOO through sheer IMMERTIA all down their nasty no-touch waffle shirts into their vacant shorts. Shoo-bop m'bop. Yeah.

Rian Fike, AFM:

We are recycling our creative resources to acknowledge and show our appreciation among the network of open individuals here now.

Jim Cole, Slough Press:

Slough Press has existed since 1973. I saw it as an underground thing; I saw it as part of a larger counterculture movement that was out to change the society. I don't think, even in these Raygun eighties, that I am capable of completely shedding that point of view....

But I have been affected by the 1980's. I like to make money from the press's publications -- money for myself and money for the authors. It does not bother me, any more, to tell an author "listen, your work is excellent aesthetically, but it just won't sell." I respect, these days, literary hacks -- writers who write purely for the money. I respect also writers who refuse to consider money when they write. But as a publisher I am most interested in writers who try to meet the challenge of being both aesthetically good and commercial....

With survival such a struggle, the only way I can find time and justify spending time and money, is if there is a good chance of making money on the investment....When you publish people get pissed off at you all the time. I've had authors threaten to sue me for merely rejecting their manuscript. Feelings are on edge and on the line. What makes it worthwhile? The possibility of money, and the bringing to the world a book that opens hearts, minds, and changes consciousness infinitesimally.

C.F. Kennedy, THE BLOTTER:

Well, why NOT publish? Maybe it's the only way, doing it yourself. Hey, it feels good, knowing you've got at least a semblance of a voice in the madness out there; and I personally have picked up a lot of friends, most of whom I've never met aside from writing back and forth. But they're friends, and good ones too.

If I was unable to do THE BLOTTER...if or when I am unable to continue the zine, a strange feeling rolls over me, like a part of my life has zeroed out & faded away. So, for me, publishing is sort of necessary. It's like one of the healthy things I have to do to survive. There may be a way through small zines etc. for people to get together through the mails & maybe even alter the course of that madness we all see. You know, and I know, and probably all your readers know that this mudball planet is falling apart and that band-aids aren't going to hold it together, that people however can change it into a more logical and reasonable place to live. Long live small presses, is about all I can say.

Glenn Grant, MIND THEATRE:

There are seven people in the MIND THEATRE collective. Whoever shows up at editorial meetings is considered a co-editor, and I can't speak for them, but I publish my comics because: a) it gives me a reason to improve my drawing and writing skills, b) I'd rather make films but my ideas tend to be extrapolative SF, and thus expensive to shoot, to say the least ("Now for this scene we have to flood half of Manhattan..."), and c) it's useless to complain about the oppressive nature of Mass Culture unless you are actively trying to create an Alternative Culture. Bored? Form a band! Make a film! Write a story! Draw some pictures! Publish a magazine! Don't worry about not knowing HOW, you will learn by doing it. What could be easier?

HAVE YOU TRASHED YOUR KID YET?

PUBLIC LAW 99-514, otherwise known as the Tax Reform Act of 1986, Section 1524:

You will be required to secure a TIN for all dependents or give up your subsidy for same beginning with taxable year 1987, unless the law is changed.

If the law is not changed, same will effect your progeny forever. No protection will be available against the consequences of National ID tracking.

1. Your child will not be able to secure employment without permission of the TIN.
2. He will require a permit to live!
3. With full implementation of TIN, he may find it impossible to exercise the following natural rights without holding the number:

Legally	• Marry,	• Work,
"	• Travel (other than on foot),	• Start a business,
"	• Change residence,	• Buy or sell,
"	• Vote,	

A. Are you concerned applying for TIN is the same as admitting his existence is only a privilege cancelable at any time by the government?

A SOC SYSTEM NUMBER, TAX ID Number (TIN), is required to work! Why? The right to work was restated in the Declaration of Independence. No work = death. Why do you need a license to have secure employment? For much more information (0.100), clarification, education, discussion (or disagreement), please write to: The Justice Advocate, Box 3125-6, Denver CO 80201.

TIA
CORRECT
INFORMATION!



FACTSHEET FIVE #4 is the worst-looking issue I ever put out. Only one sheet long, it consisted of four pages printed on my Heathkit computer (the only time I ever made that mistake) and photoreduced by an incompetent during the 1982 world SF con/SubGenial con. 150 copies were printed and maybe 100 of those distributed. I was asking for donations but still mailing most of them for free.

Some of the best from that issue have vanished -- 2NZ ROCK FANZINE, ANOMIE, FLAT EARTH NEWS -- but some are still FF regulars -- SRAF, LITTLE FREE PRESS, and SIDNEY SUPPEYS (which was then available for an SASE. Letters from Bob Black and Cardinal Feng prove that some of my audience has stayed the same as well.

But perhaps the most notable part of #4 was the innocent question, "Why is it that the bathroom light switch is inside the bathroom in the West and outside of the bathroom in the East?" The ensuing correspondence followed me for years. Incidentally, the house I am now living in does not fit the generalization, or the alternate age-based explanation, so it's still a Mystery to me.



ge. 87



'No wonder you (Ferret)
quit that cop career.'

Vale-RE/Search
Magazine

'Please send instructions
on how to get t-shirt off!'

Brian Aldiss

Blow out your 'R' Complex
with Ferret, Mink Mole and
Don Coyote! T-shirts, comics
and other oddnesses avail-
able through:

Mark V. Ziesing

P.O. Box 806

Willimantic, CT. 06226

Matt Howarth

P.O. Box 804

Langhorne, PA. 19047

Watch out for Neo-Canton
Guy World Tour Cassette
release with audibles by
Misha & Michael Chocholak,
William Gibson, Ferret and
Mink Mole, with actual guest
appearance by a 'guest'.

Coming Soon! The second
Neo-Canton Guy graphic novel
'The Phoenix Restaurant'



Reviewers for this section are Carol Schutzbank (CS) and the Auditor (MG). Shane Williams is on an all-expense paid vacation, courtesy of our government, but should return with more reviews next issue. Meanwhile, we're pretty much caught up for a change; there's probably not more than 20 or so tapes and a dozen records waiting to be reviewed.

63 EYES, "Look In For Mothmen" (\$6 from Poolbur Records, PO Box 5391, Vienna, WV 26105): The Mothman is a strange creature said to roam the Appalachian backwoods and the same might be said about this band. 63 Eyes play fast and loud pop -- hardcore noise with catchy riffs and frantic pace changes. Fave cuts: the primal lament of "Rain Dance" and the horribly morbid ending to "Never Alone", which started out as an upbeat little song. I guess it fell into bad company. (LP/MG)

ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, "Fly Again" (217 David Dr., Lexington, KY 40503): This bunch sounds like they'd be a good speed band that could easily cross back and forth between punk and metal. They have the elements of speed metal, but there's also a harder edge to the music: rough-hewn gravelly vocals, buzzy guitar barrages, relentlessly pounding drums. As far as material goes, it's not real innovative; the whole release sounds like one long song. I enjoyed the first couple of cuts but then the unceasing tempo and volume started to get annoying and I'd had enough. (T/CS)

ANIMAL LOGIC, "Motion" b/w "Happy Girl" (Primal Beat Records, PO Box 33874, Washington, DC 20033-0874): Though this disc keeps alive the momentum started with AL's "Harrisonburg" EP [see FF23], it doesn't do much to develop the band's image or style. The A side is more of their hallmark funk-meets-Talking Heads rock, with plenty of clean riff-playing but not much in the way of lyrics; the flipside is a bit of party fluff. I expect more from this band. (45/MG)

A.P.P.L.E., "A Sensitive Fascist Is Very Rare" (\$3 from Vinyl Communications, PO Box 8623, Chula Vista, CA 92012): The name stands for "Autonomy and Pacifism for Peace, Liberty and Equality" and the band is unabashedly political. The record comes with a 12-page lyric book explaining the genesis of the songs -- "They Never Said It Would Be Like This" is a rant against socialization of youth, for example. The music is somewhere between punk and folk (in fact, they even dig up an old folk song, "Where Have All the Flowers Gone") and it rocks, but unfortunately the mix on this disc is pretty flat and doesn't reach out from the speakers. (EP/MG)

BEAN CHURCH, "Night of a Thousand R's" (BWM, 1827 Haight #188, San Francisco, CA 94117): I had to listen to this about half a dozen times before I could even begin to write, not because I was so blown away that I was wordless, but because I wasn't sure what to make of it. There's a tiny bit of music (make that song, not music) but most of the material consists of ramblings from phone calls, TV, people and so forth. My initial impression was that this was pure self indulgence, but you could consider it a kind of spoken word/performance piece. More thoughts and creative babblings on tape than lyrics and songs. Is it good or not? I'm still too busy trying to figure out what it is about to determine if I like what it is. (T/CS)

BEATNIK BEATCH, "At the Zula Pool" (Industrial Records, PO Box 884341, San Francisco, CA 94188): The leader of the band says "We're just playing American folk songs", and with their 50's-cum-70's style that's fairly apt. The best tune here is the band's namesake, with its almost-spoken refrain "Hit the road, Jack/Kerouac/Beatnik Beatch". For the rest they have a mostly-acoustic sound, with occasionally touches of classical or power pop, that is low-key but quite compelling. With a nod towards C&W, this really is heartland America music, updated but not (as is often the case these days) plasticized. (LP/MG)

BITE THE WAX TADPOLE, demo tape (Mark Dery, 157 Huntington St. #4, Brooklyn, NY 11231): Wonderfully funny stuff that's somewhere between spoken-word and performance art, with a bizarre processed-banjo and drum machine backing. I love "Big Business" a vision of the common man being shoved down into the muck by the bigwigs: "I'm gonna stab out my Tareyton in your left eye. You're gonna be a dissected crayfish and I'm the man in surgeon's greens wiping your entrails across my lapels..." Hope for a full-length release soon. (T/MG)

BLOOD FEAST, "Kill For Pleasure" (New Renaissance Records, PO Box 11372, Burbank, CA 91510): Two lead guitar players means that this heavy metal band can do twice as many blistering guitar solos per track, and they take full advantage of this fact. Skull-crushing music with horrid lyrics ("Kill - Rip - Seize/Your heart begins to bleed/Lust - Tear - Flesh/Drink the blood of victims"). Unfortunately lead vocalist Gary Markovitch sounds like he's been kicked in the crotch and is still trying to locate the key he sings best in. But if you can tune him out, this stuff will blast you out of your chair. (LP/MG)

BLOODY MESS & HATE, "I'm Glad Sid's Dead" (\$3 from Bloody Mess, 5523 Montello Dr., Peoria, IL 61614): Produced by CG Allin, uncensored, and blazoned "Fuck the P.M.R.C.", this is from the No Social Graces school of thrash. In this preview of their forthcoming EP, Hate rips through 9 songs, attacking morals, police ("Officer Friendly is a pig/Oink, oink, oink..."), God, skinheads, peacepunks, heavy metal bands, and more. The lyrics are screamed but intelligible, and the music blasts along nicely. (T/MG)

JONATHAN BOROFKY & ED TOMNEY, "The Radical Songbirds of Islam" (\$9.25 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #725, New York, NY 10012): This is an a capella work, composed of pure tones sung by Borofsky. The sequence is chosen by Tomney's computer program, based on the natural numbers. The music is also related to Borofsky's "carnival-like giant sculptures". The final effect is somewhat monotonous but varied enough to keep one perpetually braced for the next vocal outburst. The pace is slow and ecclesiastical, with a nod to Islamic prayer chants. (T/MG)

BRIAN BRAIN, "Time Flies When You're Having Toast" (Celluloid, 330 Hudson St., New York, NY 10013): The mind behind this is Martin Atkins, ex-PIL member, and BB has the same sort of facetious slickness that the former group features. With Atkins being a drummer, it's not surprising that the hallmark of this music is the constant rapid-fire danceable drumbeat and the near-disco repetition of everything. You can dance to it, but you sure can't think to it, even though the lyrics are interesting once. Trouble is, they're repeated 200 times in the course of the song. (LP/MG)

THE BRIGADE, "Come Together" (BYO Records, PO Box 67A64, Los Angeles, CA 90067): The Brigade is dead. Long live The Brigade! These erstwhile purveyors of positive punk cement their move into other genres with this EP. It opens with a rousing funky mix, segues into a song that smacks of The Cure, and then pulls it all together with an original touch that, while hinting of lots of Brit influences, still manages to be very original. They're still a little rough around the edges but the band definitely has moved into a much more accessible format, incorporating the slickness of pop liveliness with the harder edge of their earlier roots. (EP/CS)

MARC BRISTOL, "Wam Bam Boom" (\$7 from King Noodle Records, PO Box 25, Duval, WA 98019): Rock and Roll that builds on the simpler, earlier days -- as the dedication has it, from "Hank, Buddy, Eddie, Sam, Otis, Elvis and John". Marc fronts for an acoustic three-piece and does it very well, especially when he gets heart and soul into the music, as he does with "(I'm a) Sucker for a Cheap Guitar" and "Love Light On". There's also a powerful cover of "Tutti Frutti" and a batch of other rock love songs here. Music that won't hurt your ears. (T/MG)

CAMERATA Vol. 1 #1 (\$5 from 227 Day St., Tallahassee, FL 32304): A 60-minute compilation tape that promises a new one every month. The first one is mostly very nice moody acoustic music from several artists. The winning track, though, is by Marc Gaspard and Cynthia Cahn. Called "Why is This Night Different", it's a multi-tracked spectacle of human voices, repeating different phrases in your ears and screaming as background. Very experimental and very fun, dense enough to listen to over and over. The finest hour of the cliché. (T/MG)

EVAN CANTOR, "Just Sittin' Around the House" (Sound of Pig Music, c/o Al Margolis, 28 Bellingham Lane, Great Neck, NY 11023): A lot tamer than the stuff he used to do with Walls of Genius. (Evan writes, "I've grown a little tired of aiming at...the inmates of a few mental institutions...") Instead, it's lightweight acoustic guitar music, heavy on melodies and with only occasional non-intrusive synthesizer notes. Pleasant to listen to but not particularly outstanding. (T/MG)

CAROLINER, "Rear End Hernia Puppet Show" (Subterranean Records, 577 Valencia St., San Francisco, CA 94110): These people seem to have independently invented the music of SubGenil Doktor Bands -- strange noises made by pounding, twisting and otherwise abusing normal (and abnormal) instruments. The music is rooted (if the promos are to be believed) in a perception of the crappy life of the average guy in the 1800s, and indeed bits of country influence can be detected in the music, when it nears some sort of terra cognita. But it doesn't spend much time there, and this album is likely to scare the chickens and cause cows to miscarry. (LP/MG)

CASSETTEZINES

I'm never quite sure where to put these, tapes with written accompaniment and zines with taped accompaniment. But this is the traditional FF spot, so on with the reviews.

ALAMONT, "Religion Attack" (Mow 'Em Down Recordings, 2826 Valencia Way, San Pablo, CA 94806-3013): The music here is not all that great, being led by Kr James' competent piano playing but not backed up by much more than poor recording. Vocals and synth and the occasional guitar make up the rest of the sparse sound. The accompanying zine, though, is a fantastic color-xerox handwritten job, filled with lyrics and rants and graphics and recipes and essays on language and alphabets and a lot more. As the title implies, much of this is a straightforward assault on the idea of being religious, let alone belonging to any major religion -- but there are anomalies, like the cover of "Baba O'Riley". No price listed -- probably about \$5 worth of materials and effort. (CZ/MG)

\$4 WORTH OF SPERM (\$4 from Bob Z., Artists & Writers Underground, c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): The third cassettezine from the BAD NEWZ people, and a fine production it is. Mainly it's a compilation tape featuring bands like The Wallmen, Intense Mutilation, and A.P.P.L.E. -- folks who (for the most part) make you think instead of just trying to blow you away with a wall of sound. There's also an interview with Dave from D.O.A. and some punkure performance poetry. (CZ/MG)

JOES 6.1/2 TAPE ZINE (\$3 & 73 cent SASE from Joe Hoppe, 1425 LaSalle #409, Minneapolis, MN 55403): As the tape jacket says, this is full of "Poems, Raps, Rants, Raves, Stories and Songs". In other words, this is full of the same sort of thing that one finds in the JOES 6/12 printed issues: words about real folks said or ranted or sometimes sung by real folks. Mostly this is slices of Minneapolis city life, from Joe and Chris Beneke and Luke McGuff and a couple of other folks who observe and record. Good, strong stuff, suitable for mainlining late at night. (CZ/MG)

PSEUDO ZINE #2-3 (\$15/yr from Mike Crocker, PO Box 5088, Kent, OH 44240): A digest-sized pffazine accompanied by a short tape. In #2 this is a cassette single from Pat-Man & the Mind Kopperz, full of babbled poetry, high-pitched painful electronics, and broken-up symphonic music -- too avant-garde for this reviewer to enjoy. Contents of the zine include stories on Husker Du and Butthole Surfers, record and zine reviews, and some random thoughts from the editors. #3 features a strange audio cut-up by Peristalsis, making light of the A-bomb with vintage recordings. But the best part is the lengthy interviews with experimental tape producers including Hal McGee, Randy Grief, Anatol Sucher, and more. But this one and find out what the tape culture is all about. (CZ/MG)

WHAT WAVE #13 (\$4 from O'Halloran, 44 Langarth St. East, London, Ont. N6C 1Z1, CANADA): The "Live from London" issue, with a tape of 21 bands that have played their home town. Most of this is garage or roots rock, with a fair proportion of covers, and while the sound quality is nothing to crow about, the energy and fun is. Pick track: "Roadrunner" by the Gruesomes, a group out of Montreal. The written zine is no slouch either, 40 pages of garage, psychedelic and rockabilly interviews with some of the cleanest photos I've ever seen in a zine. Features talks with Fuzztones, Hank Davis, Royal Nonesuch, and lots more. (CZ/MG)

ZERO HOUR #1 (\$3 from Josh, 32 Chestnut Hill, Greenfield, MA 01301): A cassettezine that goes far beyond the normal compilation tape mode. Josh has collected a selection of rants, street noises, taped surveys, oddball songs, jokes, commercials, and other things and pasted them together with some of his own commentary. This results in a uniquely personalized item that's amusing and fun. Looking for contributions for future editions, especially with political content. A real zine on tape. (CZ/MG)

MICHAEL CHOCHOLAK, "Des Devonian Tag" (\$8 from M&M Music, Rt. 1 Box 55, Cove, OR 97824): More synthesizer madness from Mike. With a couple of exceptions, this stuff is much more experimental and less melodic than his previous couple of outings. That means it needs a more active listener, one who wants to enjoy the sampled sounds and distorted vocals, and it isn't as suitable as background music. "Dance of the Seven Bows", for example, features a clashing beat that set my fillings to aching, although fortunately it's followed by "Tsuki Mangetsu", with more of Misha Chocholak's haunting flute work. (T/MG)

CRAZY BACKWARDS ALPHABET, self-titled (SST Records, PO Box 1, Lowndale, CA 90260): Friendly bouncy rock with a variety of influences. You can hear C&W on "Blood & Ink" and "Get to You", while the jazz is there on "Welfare Elite" and "Ghosts". It's a very democratic mix, with everyone getting time in the limelight, though a special nod must go to Henry Kaiser's marvelous slide-guitar playing. The tape features boffo cover art from Matt "Life in Hell" Groening. (T/MG)

THE CRUMMY FAGS, "Rilly Loz Dinda Mire O'Narzizim" (\$3.50 from Whitewall Tapes, 968-B Snowfall Spur, Akron, OH 44313): Loud music from a semi-legendary group of Akron screwups, including Sean Hill on vocals, Dag Nabbit on guitar and Randy Russell on snare & cymbal & occasional sax. With the aid of a couple more guitarists and another drummer they make a hell of a lot of noise, replete with feedback and sloppy riffs that degenerate into nothingness. They may have started out as a joke, but they turned into an interesting rock/industrial crossover band. (T/MG)

MR. CURT, "Camaraderie Music" (Camaraderie Music, PO Box 403, Kenmore Stn., Boston, MA 02215): This one incorporates just about everything you could think of and then some. It starts out relaxing and ambient, then suddenly jumps into progressive pop with a definite tang. This segues into a sort of girl group doowop funky number, then goes out and out smooth and funky, then into melodic pop...well, you get the idea. The only problem is that when the ambient music reappears in the middle of side two, you're too tired of the release to really care. There is a lot of very good material here but it gets lost in and around the superfluous stuff. Mr. Curt needs to focus in a little bit. (T/CS)

DEAD SILENCE, "Beginning of the End" (\$6 from K.O'Dea, PO Box 7206, Boulder, CO 80306): Socially-conscious near-thrash punk music. The standout track here is "We Turned Away", an updating of Pastor Niemoller's warning against complacency that goes from spoken word to driving rock without a seam. Other topics include Big Mountain, punk

apathy, and direct action. But the heavy philosophy is pretty much confined to the lyrics and the introductions in the included booklet and doesn't get in the way of the powerful music. (LP/MG)

DESTINATION VENUS, "Oh Lucille" b/w "So Cold" (TSMB Records, PO Box 1040, Dover, DE 19903): DV is a pleasant-enough dance band, with fast rhythms and a lot of synthesizer music. The vocals are friendly male/female harmonies, although the words are nothing to bother writing down. Music to move your body to while your mind is busy elsewhere. (45/MG)

THE DISBURBED, "Totaled Volvo" (2 Cambelton Cir., Princeton, NJ 08540): Angry garage rock led by the ferocious guitar attack of one Crugle. The song titles speak for themselves: "You Make me Sick", "You Can Go To Hell" and "Go Down and Kill Yourself" (with completely unprintable lyrics) are just three of their tender ballads. But what I most appreciated was the jangly thrash guitar version of "Frere Jacques" that closes side one. (LP/MG)

DIZZY AND THE ROMILARS, "Elizabeth's Lover" (Independent Label Alliance, PO Box 594m, Bay Shore, NY 11706): Quick pop made listenable mainly through the voice of Ramona Lee Jan, who can really belt out even an inconsequential tune. Though fuller than most pop, the music is still pretty ignorable -- you can dance to it, but you won't pick it for every night. Includes a bonus flexidisc cover of Bowie's "TVC-15". (45/MG)

DOG AS MASTER, "Trompeur et Sournois" (\$6.50 from Cause and Effect, PO Box 30383, Indianapolis, IN 46230): Usually I'm not all that thrilled with experimental music, but I took a shine to this one, perhaps because of its outright obnoxiousness. Most of the tape is somewhere between dead silence and low-level white noise. But the listener who cranks it up will be sorry, because this is punctuated at irregular intervals by blasts of electronic sound, the output of a synthesizer gone mad. Not easy to listen to but strangely rewarding regardless of any artistic merit. (T/MG)

EINSTURZENDE NEUBATEN, "2x4" (\$9.25 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #725, New York, NY 10012): Noise, pure and simple. Well, maybe not so simple, if proponents of "industrial music" are to be believed. EN's sound consists of various percussive poundings, shouted or screamed vocals, and occasional bits of guitar work. The odd thing is that it's actually pretty listenable music -- just goes to show that you can make interesting sounds in all sorts of ways. (T/MG)

EXECUTIONER, "In the Name of Metal" (New Renaissance Records, PO Box 11372, Burbank, CA 91501): Nothing here to go writing home about, that's for sure. But then again, there's nothing to set the dog howling either. All there is, really, is solid, competent speed metal that's neither creatively attention-getting nor clonishly annoying. Executioner plays well, the instruments are tight and the vocals are average. The fact that they have all this going for them is heartening -- now if only they would use it a bit more inventively maybe there'd be hope for them after all. (LP/CS)

FERRET & Friends "Neo-Canton Guy World Tour" (\$5 from Howski Studios, PO Box 804, Langhorne, PA 19047): This is music to accompany Ferret's wonderful graphic novels. (Ferret, in case you're asleep, did the covers of this FF, which should be recommendation enough). W.E. Gibson provides "Live! In Canton" for the famous Neo-Canton Legacy book, with appropriate surrealist Oriental sounds and offbeat spoken word stuff. On the back, Michael Chocholak gives us the "Hazardous Murders Soundtrack", a rollicking piece of synthesizer, flute and Cuisinart madness. The whole comes with a full-color Ferret cover and is a great companion to his bizarre books. (T/MG)

THE FLAMING LIPS, "Oh My Gaud!!!!...The Flaming Lips" (Restless Records, 1750 E. Holly Ave., El Segundo, CA 90245-2428): The album starts out with a high-power rocker, "Everything's Explodin'" and ends with the extended experimental "Love Yer Brain". But things aren't that simple because there's a strange bit of experimental mixing in the middle of the first and the last has definite killer sections. The whole album is like this, a mix of psychedelia and noise, full of energy, and great fun. "When I look in my mirror and my brains are falling out of my head/well there's nothing wrong it's just the way I feel". You'll feel the same way after a few listens. Wonderful happy anarchy. (LP/MG)

FOR AGAINST, "Echelons" (Independent Project Records, PO Box 60357, Los Angeles, CA 90060): The album cover, mainly stark white, serves as a metaphor for the music, for on the flip side of this disciplined image is an inkblot that could mean almost anything. FA produce a similarly disciplined and tight music, weaving quick drum beats and fancy bass guitar lines with Jeffrey Runnings' clear melodic voice. Thus the album is accessible enough to be enjoyed by my seven-year-old and interesting enough to hold my attention as well with its hypnotic visions. (LP/MG)

THE FREE ZONE, "Political Asylum" (Cheep Tapes, 65A Salisbury Rd., Wavertree, Liverpool, L15 1HW, GREAT BRITAIN): A two-man group with Pete Scarlett on drums and Tim Thwaites on everything else -- vocals, guitar, and occasional keyboards. It all boils down to quiet, relaxed, sincere rock. Nothing flashy here, nothing to catch your attention, but nothing to make you run screaming to turn the volume down either. (T/MG)

FULL PATHOM FIVE, "The Cry of a Falling Nation" (Link Records, 277 Church St., 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10013): Fast and loose rock from a three-piece with enough noise for a few more. That's not to say that the playing is sloppy, only that you can tell they're more interested in building up noise than in technical perfection. If I lived in Iowa too I might feel the same way. Anyhow, the best track here is the blistering "It Wasn't Jesus", a new light on the televangelists. These guys show a lot of potential if they can avoid any more extended Hendrix covers. (LP/MG)

GENOCIDE, "Submit to Genocide" (New Renaissance Records, PO Box 11372, Burbank, CA 91510-1372): This seems to be an excuse for young men to wear lots of leather and spikes and talk dirty. The most glaring example of excess on this album is the song "Live to Fuck -

Fuck to Live", with 31 repetitions of that wonderful lyric. Other songs extol the virtues of being a sociopath or Manson worshipper or put down women. In other words, trash. The sound? Like a subway train running over an electric guitar. (LP/MG)

PHIL GNARLY AND THE TOUGH GUYS, "Philville" (Flaming Pie Records, PO Box 1096, Cooper Stn., New York, NY 10276): Despite the address these guys are from Madison, Wisconsin, where the men are men and the beer is drunk listening to music like this. The Tough Guys play something like sloppy surf punk, fast and loose guitar work behind such charming sentiments as "Beer on my Breath" and "Winecooler Party". They're not all drinking songs, or all rock; "Requiem for a Rodeo Ranch Hand" has a near-C&W feel to it. But they're all fronted by the snarling Phil, a barband answer to pro wrestling. Not as abrasive as one might think, just a little raw around the edges, and with enough humor to stay fun to listen to, this one is worth a try. (LP/MG)

GOLDMANIA, self-titled (72 Old Farm Rd., Springfield, MA 01119): The album cover has "Pajamarama" on it -- almost as though that were a title. But it doesn't seem to appear anywhere else. So what given? Does this have anything to do with the release or is it just a concept that the musicians felt like sharing with us? It sort of sets the tone for what's to come: likeable pop rock that's gently swinging. There's a lot of traditional hooks and progressions, but they're presented in such an appealing manner that you don't seem to mind. Some of the music is reminiscent of early Dan Fogelberg, but a bit more commercial. (EP/CS)

PETER GORDON, "Otello - Falso Movimento" (\$9.25 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #725, New York, NY 10012): A strange thing even for around here. This is a reworking of the Verdi opera of the same name. Some of the changes are merely updates -- after all, Verdi didn't have saxophones and electronics to work with. But others are odder: electronic distortions of recorded straight opera, new parts written to go with new action, disco beats injected on top of bits of Verdi's score. The end result is an idiosyncratic dance-oriented takeoff that still sounds a bit like opera -- the traditional combined with the cutting edge of modern musical experimentation. Intriguing but hard to like. (T/MG)

GREEN PAJAMAS, "Book of Hours" (Green Monkey Records, PO Box 51983, Seattle, WA 98103): These guys have obviously listened to a lot of Beatles, especially the early to mid years. If they haven't, then they must have done so in a previous life, because the music is rife with comparisons. There are some soft psychedelic touches scattered in and around catchy pop tunes that have a wry, witty appeal to them. The material is supple and flows well as a whole, but I'd like to hear a little more originality from the band. Still, I'd pick up the next release -- there's enough here to warrant keeping an eye on their progress. (LP/CS)

HALF A CHICKEN, self-titled (Sysphus Records, 27 Salem Ln., Port Washington, NY 11050): I was quite prepared to like this one after reading song titles like "Fear and Loathing" and "Fifty Favorite Dead People", but it left me feeling only luke-warm. The traditional

four-piece plays undistinguished fairly hard rock, and the lead vocals are rather raspy and annoying. The lyrics are amusing, particularly lines like "I want to get to Illinois and piss on Daley's grave", but they can't carry the ball by themselves. (T/MG)

HAPPY FLOWERS, "My Skin Covers My Body" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): Guitar and bass noise from Mr. Anus and Mr. Horribly Charred Infant, two boys who are attuned to the horrors of childhood. How else to explain the tortured reality of songs like "Why Didn't You Tell Me You Were Bringing Home a Baby" and "I Wet the Bed Again"? High-power noise with screaming echoed vocals, certainly not the thing to calm down your children at night. These tortured souls should be given some nice pabulum and put to bed. (LP/MG)

HAPPY WORLD, "Flowing Field" (\$8 from Rabid Cat Records, PO Box 49263, Austin, TX 78765): These guys have a sure-fire hit in their metalloid "Kill the P.M.R.C.", with lyrics so straightforward that even Tipper Gore could understand them. But that's just a gimmick on this fine album of loose and churning punk, with a stomping guitar that just won't quit. I loved the instrumentals in "Dog" and "FF-10"; raw guitar power that you can mainline. (LP/MG)

THE HATERS, "Rot" (Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): Really, it's not as bad as it sounds. The Haters are apparently a solo project of G.X. Jupiter-Larsen, a well-known avant-gardist. The tape features six songs with titles like "Esta 2" and "Xeen 5", relying chiefly on metallic percussion that build into assualtive crescendoes. Music that washes any loose brain cells right out of your ears. (T/MG)

HELLION, "Screams in the Night" (New Renaissance Records, PO Box 11372, Burbank, CA 91510-1372): These folks stand out from the heavy metal pack just a bit thanks to the lowdown vocal work of Ann Boleyn and the willingness of the guitar-laden guys behind her to loosen up a bit musically. The solo leading into "The Hand", for example, is not your typical heavy metal but a lot more freeform, almost jazz played on rock instruments; "Children of the Night" has similar non-standard playing. Too bad the lyrics are the cut from the standard teen rebellion mold. (LP/MG)

HI SHERIFFS OF BLUE, self-titled (\$5.98 from Independent Label Alliance, PO Box 594M, Bay Shore, NY 11706): The Delaware Destroyers on designer drugs? A non-wimpy Talking Heads? I can't seem to come up with a decent comparison for these guys, so I'll have to plunge into the maelstrom of their music, sometimes driving, sometimes laid back and rhythmic, and always filled with unexpected surprises. Mark Dagley's vocals leap around and about; the guitar and sax work behind him moves along smoothly for a while and then jerks off on a new direction; keyboards and harmonica come in at random points. A tightly-knit but hard to predict musical wonder. (EP/MG)

ABBIE HOFFMAN, "Wake Up, America!" (NOT from ZBS Foundation, RR#1, Box 1201, Fort Edward, NY 12828): Though ZBS helped produce this one, it's out of print; scour the used record stores for a copy or offer them fabulous amounts of money and see what happens. This is the second-most-essential Sixties album (after Country Joe & The Fish "I-Feel-Like-I'm-Fixin'-To-Die") that I know of. It consists of Abbie and friends ranting and raving and yes, even singing, about the Chicago trial and capitalism and the war in Vietnam and who knows what else almost a full hour of fun. "The only dope worth shooting is Richard Nixon." (LP/MG)

peter plate



joaquin (in the fog)

After a series of politically motivated heists, Joaquin Murrieta was hunted down like an animal and decapitated. His head in a jar toured around the West as a side show attraction... Like the California bandit, Peter has been trying to reconcile himself with a difficult social economy... This is the story of Joaquin and his return to the present tense in five different forms... What was the fate of the lawman responsible for Joaquin's beheading? *And did he get the right man?*

-from the Autofiction Series

Pre-publication price: \$3.00 plus \$1.00 postage.

cover w/color photo of Dana F. Smith's painting:
 "Joaquin (in the fog)"
 Delivered by New Years'

FLATLAND DISTRIBUTION

IMPULSE - CONNEXIONS - SEMIOTEXT(E) - FOREIGN AGENT SERIES - ALTERNATIVE FICTION & POETRY - PROCESSED WORLD - RACE TODAY - THE FIFTH ESTATE - FILM THREAT - SOUND CHOICE - FULL DISCLOSURE - LIMIT OF MAPS - ORGONAUTS - LABWATCH - FACTSHEET FIVE - HIGH FRONTIERS - RAMPIKE - CRITIQUE - BLACK FILM REVIEW - ACROSS FRONTIERS - GARGOYLE - THE NATIONAL REPORTER - ANTI-SOCIAL - RIDGE REVIEW - IDEAS AND ACTION - KICK IT OVER - MIDNIGHT NOTES - ACRATA - A.C. SANDINO - PIRATE RADIO - SINSEMILLA TIPS - BOOKS - PAMPHLETS - VIDEOS

To receive our catalog of literature (small press, samizdat, and alternative art, music, fiction, culture and politics), send name, address and \$1 (refundable with purchase) to: Flatland Distribution, 1844 Foothill Boulevard, Oakland, CA 94606 USA

HOT-FOOTED WET FART WAR, "Send Your Money Now" (\$1 CASH from 32 Chestnut Hill, Greenfield, MA 01301): A Subgenial tape with a grinning Dobbshhead on the wrapper. It's one song, about two minutes long, but what the heck, the price is low. The HFWFW is a three-piece specializing in funny noises, and the song is, as the title might suggest, an orthodox SubG demand for contributions. (T/MG)

THE HUBCAPS, "In the Heat of the Night" b/w "Let's Go, Let's Go, Let's Go" (TSMB Records, PO Box 1040, Dover, DE 19903): The A side is pretty ho-hum, light rock with no particular grabbers. But on the back is a great soul tune, nearly gospel in fact, that grabs the listener and sends him dancing about the room and singing along with the simple chorus. Nice trumpet too. Maybe these guys should just stay away from the mainstream and do what they're good at. (45/MG)

HUMAN SKAB, "Thunderhips and Saddlebags" (PO Box 1130, Elma, WA 98541): "In ten years I'm gonna be cruisin' the coast, drinkin' my pop, and kissin' all the girls." Welcome to the ten-year-old world of HS, a precocious youngster who takes anything and everything at his fingertips (pots, pans, toys) to create artsy, stream-of-consciousness musical pieces. What's nice about this release is the total honesty and unpretentiousness of it: a total cacophony and wicked, humorous observations that don't pretend. Pretty powerful stuff from a ten year old, who is leaps and bounds ahead of many other artists older and more experienced. I can't wait to see what happens when he turns eleven... (T/CS)

HUMAN ZOO, self-titled (contact Bevo Rusza, 5538 Meryton, Cincinnati, OH 45224): Well, these boys seem to aspire to be nearly as foul-mouthed as the legendary GG Allin (though they've still got a long way to go) but there's one big difference: their rock sounds a lot more competent than most of the backing I've heard behind GG. Still, this isn't worth getting unless high-power rock with cusswords is your bag. (EP/MG)

ICE CREAM BLISTERS, "When Nature Falls, Art Steps In" (\$4 from GGE Records, PO Box 5088, Kent, OH 44240): This is the somewhat bizarre music project of Mike Crooker, who runs GGE, together with his pal Chris Mezzolesta. They do a whole lot of strange music on this tape, from the rantingly anti-religion "Pray for Death" to the tongue-in-cheek Gary Glitter cover of "Rock and Roll Pt. 3" to the near-commercial rock of "Drive it Down". This is a lightning tour through a variety of mainly fringe styles that will keep the listener hopping in an attempt to catch up. (T/MG)

INDESTROY, self-titled (New Renaissance Records, PO Box 11372, Burbank, CA 91510): I wouldn't suggest booking these guys to play your two-year-old's birthday party -- their brand of speed metal is likely to blast the little tykes right out the window. The showcase track here, designed to win the ire of the PMRC, is "Dead Girls (Don't Say No)", a straightforward ode to necrophilia. The lyrics of "Brain Damaged", though, may more accurately capture their spirit: "Play with fury play with speed/Grinding rhythms wailing leads.../Fast loud really obscene/Play for pain". (LP/MG)

IZABELLA, "A Collection of Folk Songs, Poetry, and Noise" (PO Box 93584, Cleveland, OH 44101-5584): I don't know anything about this band, other than that they would be great fun at parties. The A side hits the fan with a pile of funny stuff, including the "Laid Off Blues" and my fave cut, "Oreo", a cautionary tale for mothers who try to prevent young psychopaths from snacking before dinner. The flipside is more noisy, with "Backdoor Jesus" being an all-stops-out jam leading into the enigmatic "Stray Dog". Fun stuff. (T/MG)

JOHNNY SWITCHBLADE, "The Detachable Prostitute" (Sound of Pig Music, c/o Al Margolis, 28 Bellingham Lane, Great Neck, NY 11023): Al certainly keeps some strange stuff available to the experimental audiophile. JS is a collaboration between 3 artists (Minoxy, Christopher Smith, and Roger Money-maker) -- by MAIL. (And by phone, if the distorted tapes on the A side are any clue). The most interesting part of this tape is the title track, a side-long compendium of descending bass tones intermixed with minor variations -- monotonous but with enough changes to keep one hoping. (T/MG)

LIME SPIDERS, "The Cave Comes Alive" (Virgin Records, 9247 Alden Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210): It's hard to believe, amidst all the acclaim, that this is actually their first LP. It's a darned good one. LS are rooted in traditional rock but go beyond it, not with thrash playing or screaming, but with a solid, raucous sound and gravelly vocals. The music builds on itself in a series of crescendoes, washing over the listener and leaving only wondering admiration in its wake. I particularly liked the evocative love-song "Jessica", with a flowing sort of sound that keeps popping up new surprises. (LP/MG)

LIVE SKULL, "Don't Get Any On You" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): This live recording is two years old now, so the band has had plenty of time to make lineup changes. Thus I don't know if it's lasted, but the LS of this session must have been something worth experiencing. Loud rock music, playing on the wrong edge of intentional feedback and distortion at times and always with an undercurrent of raw terror, LS manages to make one want to take the turntable and throw it in a lake somewhere. Not for the faint of heart. (LP/MG)

F. LONBERG-HOLM, "Fixed Fragments" (\$4 from 811 W. 8th St., Wilmington, DE 19801 or trade for aperiodic music): Hideously experimental music. The technique used here is to take run-of-the-mill music (or other noises, like applause) and to cut it up into bits, turning the sound on and off again at random, or at least aperiodically. The effect is something like having a dentist drill into your skull during a power brownout. For those on the edge only. (T/MG)

LOOKOUTS!, "One Planet, One People" (PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): When I saw this was from Lawrence Livermore, publisher of LOOKOUTS!, I expected the anarchist lyrics. What I didn't expect was the thrash-speed playing that enhances most of the music, like getting an overdose of MSG in your Chinese food. Politically-correct lyrics like "No room for masters no room for slaves/no room for greed" are belted out at a thousand miles an hour. There's a hard, satiric core to this material, with a stirring indictment of the Mendocino County trendy burnouts, a song about "Fourth Reich Nazi America" and a couple of doper songs mixed in with the anti-system venom. A powerful statement that you can groove on at a high decibel level. (LP/MG)

LOUNGE LIZARDS, "Live 79-81" (\$9.25 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #725, New York, NY 10012): This may be a joke, but as the basic style is jazz improvisation, how can one tell? Oh, perhaps the riffs are carried a shade too far past pretension, or the dissonances are a bit too outre, or the songs go on a bit too long. But ultimately, there's not a lot to distinguish this from other overly-cerebral music. Not my cup of tea. (T/MG)

THE LUV-RAKERS, "Clock on the Wall" b/w "Things & Changes" (Angel Records, PO Box 2544, Baton Rouge, LA 70821): Pretty ho-hum light rock with a country tinge fronted by Al Snelling and Susan Owens. Sounds like a typical cowboy bar band. But the press release is a real gem: "Together, they have formed the most versatile-rock & roll group, since the Beatles, the Monkees, and Elvis Presley, believe me!! Be sure, and write for their "new" record-release and call, for your booking needs. They have, a show that will sure-to-please and you will long remember!!!" (45/MG)

MARK & THE MINTS, 8-song demo (\$5 from The Brown House 303, 1 Chome 5 11, Nakaku Chi Yoda, Nagoya 460, JAPAN): "We play garage trash rock," says the lead singer, and that's close enough for me. Actually, there's one comparison that leaps to mind for me: early Kinks. Mark has the same mellow upbeat voice, there's the same fine guitar solos, and the same energetic happy feeling. So yeah, this is garage rock, but darned good garage rock. On Heath Dog Violet records, who also have about 80 other tapes in their underground catalog. Send an IRC for details. (T/MG)

RAY MASON, "Love Walk" (Captivating Music, 310 Elm St., Northampton, MA 01060): Easy going listening encompassing soft melodic ballads, a touch of country-grass roots, and a lot of catchy pop tunes. There are some attractive hooks in the songs that hint at better things to come, enhancing many of the pop rock offerings' appeal. What works best, though, is when there's a slightly funky element added to the music that nicely complements the mellow-timbred, nasal vocals. The guitar work is competent and amiable, a pleasant accompaniment to much of the work here. Overall the release displays a nice versatility that will definitely please. (T/CS)

MCS, "Babes in Arms" (\$9.25 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #725, New York, NY 10012): Even 20 years later, this is still worth cranking up the volume for, although it does impress one with the strides that

noisemaking has taken in two decades. The MCS play straightforward high-energy raucous rock and roll. Best cuts on this selection of rarities are the drivingly-rhythmic "Tonight" and of course the high-energy foul-mouthed live version of their hit "Kick Out the Jams". A must for aging hippies and Discordians alike. (T/MG)

THE MEMBRANES, "Time Warp 1991" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570 Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): Dirgelike angry rock that drones on and on yet somehow demands that one not hit the "reject" button on the turntable. The Membranes use their dense but sloppy sound to good effect on the title track, though the listener isn't likely to recover from the shock of having the upbeat original guitar riff blown away in a wall of noise. Check out "Groovy (Fuckers)" too, an anti-anthem that features "We Want the World and We Want it Now" as a demand to be taken seriously. (EP/MG)

MENTAL ANGUISH, "Sick of This & That" (\$5 from Harsh Reality Music (checks to Chris Phinney), PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): Raw and harsh even for the electronic killer music of MA (although "New Dawn" is a surprisingly easy to listen to upbeat number). The synthesizers and distorted vocals approach an indistinguishable ear-jarring screech at times; on other tracks the found noises and detoured radio threaten to overwhelm the listener. The basics like melody are not ignored here, but they are made almost irrelevant by the layers of noise atop them. (T/MG)

M.J.B., "How to Abandon Earth" (\$4 from Raining House, PO Box 1452, Santa Cruz, CA 95061): The band broke up a few years ago, but this energetically passionate album is still available. This is a chip off the artistic underground in the bay area, communicating a general feeling of social unrest through lyrics as others do through graphics (which are also present here) or cryptic stories. The minor-key foreboding rock here blends well with the anti-giantism lyrics in the enclosed booklet of thoughts. Socially responsible but worth a listen anyhow. (EP/MG)

MOONLOVE, "Make a Bootleg" (\$3.50 from Whitewall Tapes, 968-B Snowfall Spur, Akron, OH 44313): A couple of months in the life of a pickup band in Kent, Ohio. Moonlove's sound is extremely lean and acoustic, with this tendency being accentuated by Edda Blaine's violin and the lack of a drummer on some sessions. The result is a sort of fast-paced pop helped along by three or four guitars at a time. Unfortunately the whole is marred by poor recording quality -- it's not unclear, just flat and monaural. And by now the band has gone, though you can still catch its members on other Whitewall productions. (T/MG)

THE MORTALS, "Send Your Piss to Reagan" (PO Box 7874, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-7874): A taped novelty tune that's pretty well done, in a sort of snidely C&W way. The lyrics are what one would expect from the title ("But there is no finer occupation than analyzing urination/This is an honor reserved for the President if you ask me") and could get a fair amount of college airplay. The flipside, "3:15", is a little ditty of commuter angst. (T/MG)

MOUTH BANDITS, "Requiem for an Evil Horse" (\$6 from Fat Puppy Studios, 1302 E. Michigan Ave., Urbana, IL 61801): This is two people -- Craig Johnson and Bruce Buckingham -- plus an assortment of electronic and otherwise instruments producing some very funny stuff. Somewhere between music and drama, the tracks on this tape are funny as hell and thought-provoking to boot. Take "Strange Dream of the Love God": the internal communications between the members of the technical crew responsible for staging dreams. Or how about the Reagan-parodying "Leaders (I need)" or the just plain silly "Burger Days". Great humorous noises. (T/MG)

MY DAD IS DEAD, "Peace, Love & Murder" (Birth Records, PO Box 101, Boston, MA 02134): It's all here: the throbbing rhythms, droning chords, monotonously intense vocals. They've all been done a thousand times before by so many of these post punk British dark bands we've come to know and love. But, as the old cliché goes, there's always room for one more -- especially if it's done well, as it is here. One-man band Mark Edwards takes all these things for his own, superimposing his identity onto them to give them new life. His approach is hard without being harsh, cool without being cold or sterile. Plenty of angst throughout. (LP/CS)

THE NAILS, "Eighty-eight Lines About Forty-four Women" b/w "Reel World (Heat Boys & B Girls)" (\$2.98 from Independent Label Alliance, PO Box 594m, Bay Shore, NY 11706): Hey, one of my fave songs from a summer or two wandered into my mailbox from the underground! The Nails are a bizarre band -- "88 Lines" (in case you've been in a cave) is a set of rhyming couplets chronicling the singer's sex life; "Reel World" is a look at the medioid cretins who seem to inhabit popular magazines and nightclubs these days. If there's any justice, these guys, with their brand of fast-driving, bouncy rock, will make it big. (45/MG)

NASTY FACTS, "Get to You/Crazy 'Bout You" b/w "Drive My Car" (Independent Label Alliance, PO Box 594m, Bay Shore, NY 11706): Well, this four-piece can belt out a solid wall of rock sound, dancing around the edge of feedback but not staying on it too long. On the other hand, the lyrics are strictly commercial crud, single catchy phrases pounded into your brain by dint of repetition, and I'm not fond of that. So let's give it a passing grade and go on to something else. (45/MG)

NICK STRONG ARM, "Reality Bath" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): A very strong debut album from an unusual four-piece featuring a pair of drummers. The intermixed percussion is the most intriguing part of the sound, with the bass guitar often carrying the tune while Kevin Thomson's lead guitar wanders around the sonic scale seeking to confuse and excite. The overall sound is sort of dark, but not deathly so; the lyrics, if downers, are not quite the hopeless angst one hears all too frequently these days. A band to watch out for. (LP/MG)

NO FRAUD, demo tape (from Dan Deconstructo, 475 Foxglove Rd., Venice, FL 33595): A fast but tight punk band that stands out with better than average lyrics. They talk about anarchy and drugs and sex and repression -- the usual concerns of the genre -- but avoid being too formula by pushing things fairly deep. "Another Part in the Machinery", for example, gets across a feeling for work more often found in CSW: "Artificial light rains down on me/From the top of the factory", laments the singer, as part of his argument against alienation. The music shreds along behind at ninety miles an hour, drilling the messages into your brain. (T/MG)

OPAL, "Happy Nightmare Baby" (\$7.50 from SST, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): Dark but mellow music that's meant to be played loud and proud. Yeah, it sounds contradictory, but even though the pulsing bass lines and Mideastern rhythms demand that the volume be cranked up, the moody, near occult lyrics keep the experience under control. Sort of like the first part of an acid trip, where you're just cutting loose and everything takes on a vast significance. (LP/MG)

O POSITIVE, "Cloud Factory" (Link Records, 277 Church St., 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10013): Laid-back rock from a guitar-heavy Boston band. The vocals have that achingly-sincere feeling that I associate with new bands trying to build a following, but the music is solid enough to cover for them. "Moody" and "Haunting" are the adjectives preferred by other critics for these guys, but I think I prefer "Romantic" -- more in the cultural than the hormonal sense. (LP/MG)

THE OZZFISH EXPERIENCE, "Liberty & Justice For All" (\$2 from Warner, 16921 Langley, S. Holland, IL 60473): A fifty-minute, 40-song tape. With that speed you know it's pretty hardcore, and with the OE being just two guys, one on drums and one on guitar, you know it's going to be raw. Drugs, politics and noise are favorite topics, though there are some interesting twists -- "Dr. Who For President!", for example. Still, at anything more than two bucks this unpolished tape wouldn't be worth it; as it is, it makes reasonably loud background noise. (T/MG)

PIERRE PERRET, "Gaia, la Terre" (50 francs from Pierre Perret, Banne-Sornay, 70150 Marnay, FRANCE): "Musique realisee avec des elements naturels", says the label, and that's fair enough. This is a New Age-sounding cassette, but instead of being built up from synthesizer notes the songs are composed from bird songs, flowing water, tribal chants, syllables clipped from ordinary speech, and other, "natural" noises. The result is quite pleasant, an easy, flowing sound that goes well with early mornings and herbal tea. (T/MG)

BINKY PHILIPS, self-titled (Caroline Records, 5 Crosby St., New York, NY 10013): Binky has been playing rock for 15 years but this is the first record he's cut; despite successes on the NY club scene, nothing has ever gelled. It's not too hard to see why; he's playing your basic hard rock, loud but with melodies, and doesn't stand out as a bold new departure in any way. Nothing marketable, in other words, just good clean music. This is a tight, intense album that can stand up to repeated play but not one that shows off to demand attention. (LP/MG)

THE PLEASURES PALE, self-titled (\$8.98 from Independent Label Alliance, PO Box 594m, Bay Shore, NY 11706): The tape starts off with a song that could have been cloned from Simple Minds, but fortunately the band redeems itself as things go on. The influences are still there, but not half as strong; they're a little more generically New Wave now. The tone is warm throughout, amiable new wave pop with a decidedly upbeat approach. There are hints at times of something more -- as with the light country touch on a few songs. Not fascinatingly new, but competently written and overall a pleasant and friendly release. (T/CS)

POLISH ROCK

No, it's not a joke, but a special offer that ought to be of interest to collectors everywhere. Tomasz Kolodziejczyk (NIA/PSMM r. MALUCH, Dekabrystow 26-30 DS-5, POK. 422, 42-200 Czestochowa, POLAND) writes "I will send one Polish LP & one free single for one LP from other country. I don't prefer any kind of music in exchange. People can send LPs with HM, HC, 77 Punk, Industrial, New Wave, Avantgarde, Blues or even...Pop Music. I can receive no more than 5 records in 1 package -- strange Polish laws -- but I can send 1,000,000." He also writes reviews for the zine QQRQY and runs a radio show, so this is a deal not to be passed up by any band wanting international exposure. And Tomasz kindly sent a few singles to PF so we could sample the sound. They're definitely collectors' items, pressed on heavy, thick vinyl.

AYA R.L., "Nasza Sciana" b/w "Unikaj Zdjec": Trippy pop with heavy instrumentation and a particularly arresting drum line. Lots of production went into this one, and I'll be listening to it again even if I can't understand the lyrics. (45/MG)

DAAB, "Przed nami wielka przestrzen" b/w "Do Plastica": The A side is pure upbeat reggae music to get you dancing about the room. The B side is more mellow, with the vocals mixed up front and a serious tone about it, but still in the same genre. (45/MG)

ISSIAEL, "Rastaman nie klamie" b/w "Powstanie wojownicy": More reggae, but a less picture-perfect studio sound than Daab presents and a more experimental feeling to it. The beat bops nicely along and drags even the crankiest reviewer with it. (45/MG)

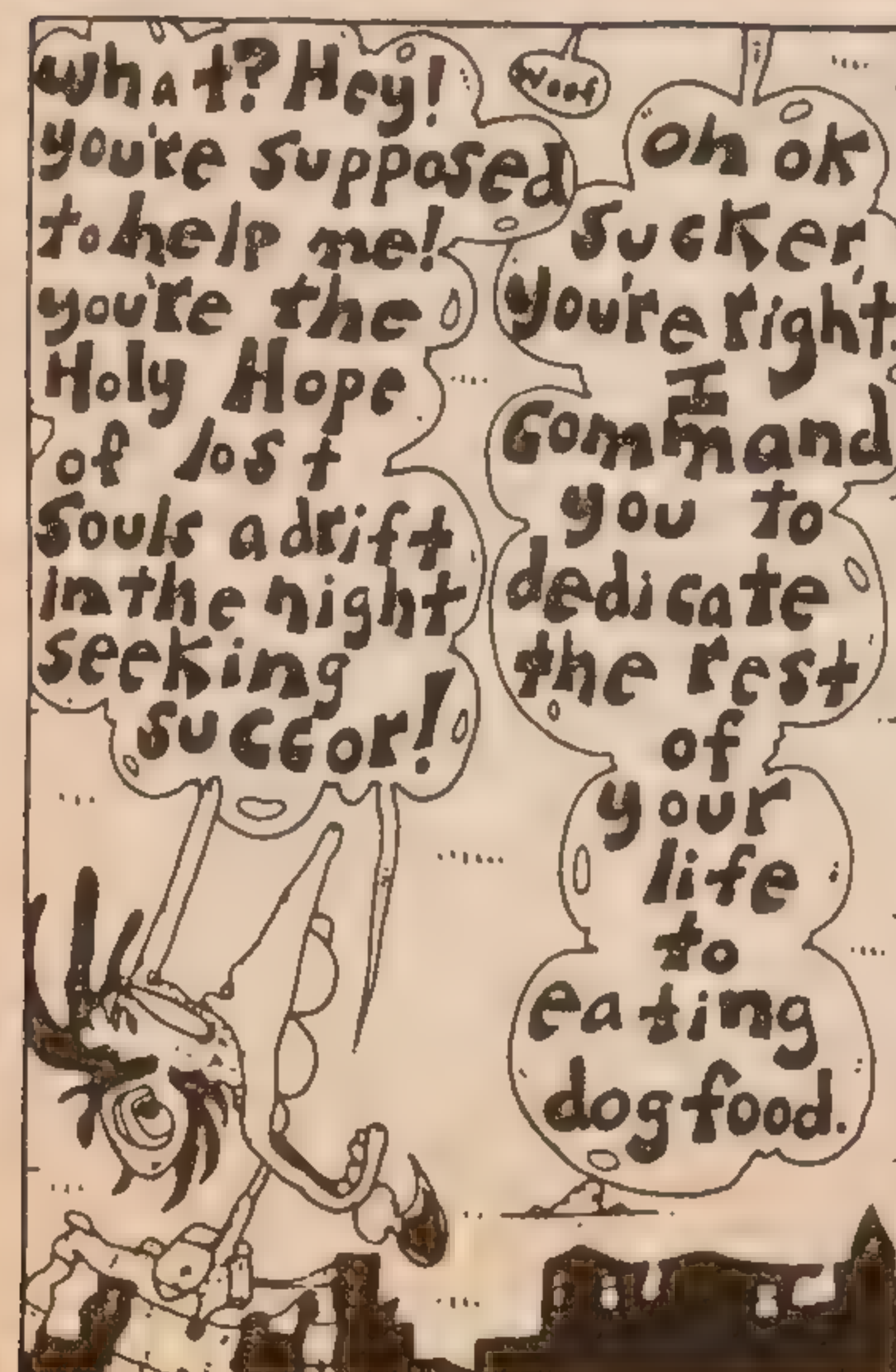
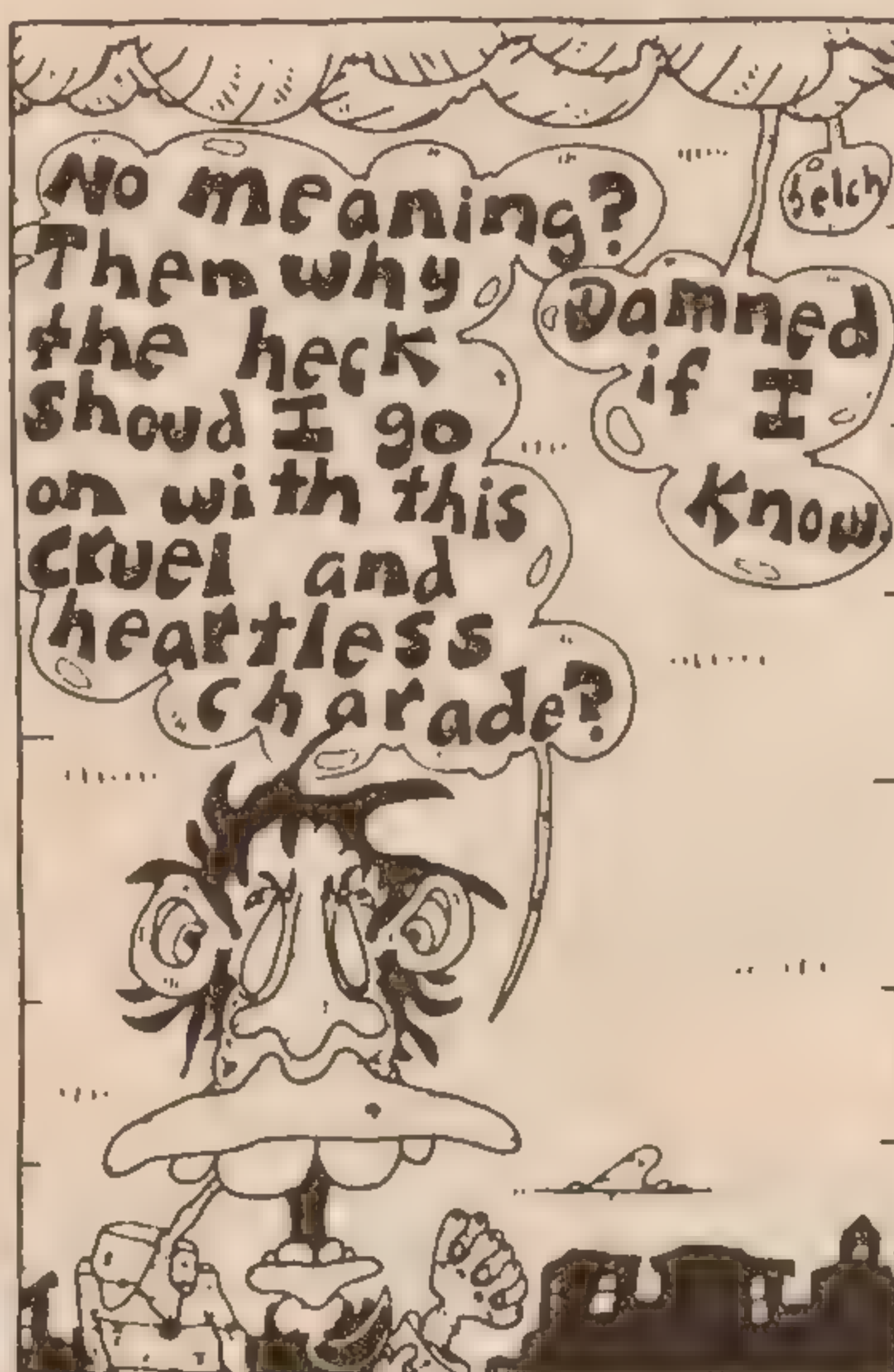
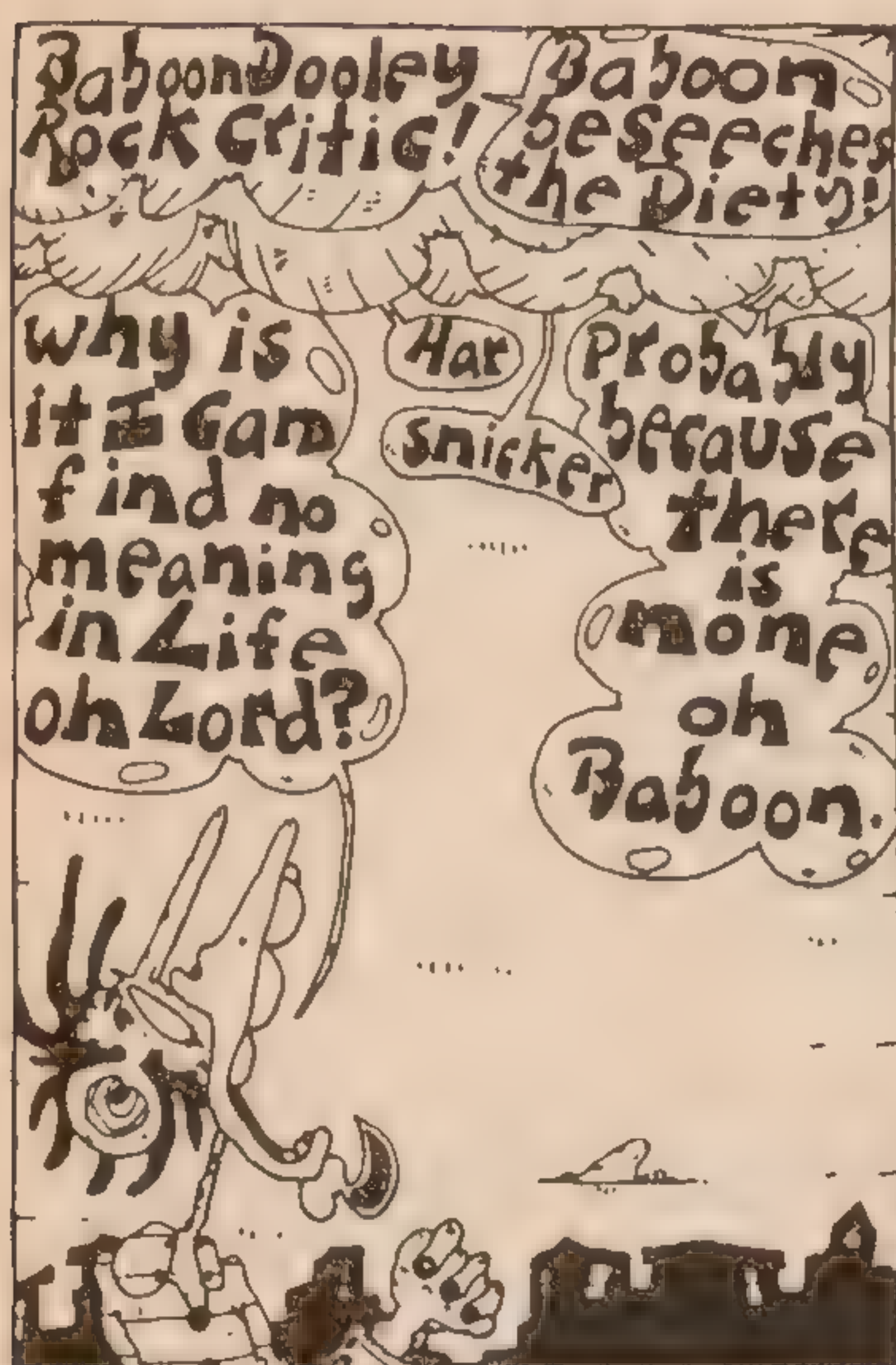
RENDEZ VOUS, "I na okraglo" b/w "Przez auta szybe": Pretty mainstream rock with an REM-ish tone to it, quiet and restrained and bringing to mind images of falling leaves or quiet afternoons. (45/MG)

POLYROCK, "No Love Lost" (\$9.25 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #725, New York, NY 10012): Long ago, in a club scene far away, the force was with a band that combined the best elements of pop, dance, art rock, and new wave. It's been some time now, and the force has dimmed, but still it does burn -- and this release is guaranteed to fan the flames. Here is Polyrock in its rawest, most energetic form. The tape is a conglomeration of demos, live cuts and works in progress. The crystal clear production effectively captures the creatively orchestrated dance music and the high voltage energy. "No Love Lost" wraps itself around your eardrums insidiously, working its way through to your toes, suddenly squeezing tight. (T/CS)

THE POP FLIES, "Carolina" b/w "House on the Water" (\$2 from PO Box 493, Williston, NY 11596): Pretty traditional light rock from a suburban-looking four-piece band. The playing and Jeff Strell's vocals are competent; the songs themselves are lightweight and thus possible for heavy airplay. All they need is a reputation. (EP/MG)

DAVE PRESCOTT, "Red Shift Part 2" \$4 from Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): This cassette label is signing new artists and putting out lots of stuff, perhaps a sign of success. I hope so, because HR is one of the best places to get listenable non-boring synthesizer music that I can think of. Dave in fact is playing precisely that, multi-layered synth music that changes subtly as it goes along, starting in no hurry on the A side but building to a furiously-paced wall of noise by the end of the tape. Along the way we get everything from sci-fi to Mexican rhythms, mixed together into a stochastic stew. (T/MG)

PREVARICATORS, "<<Jihad>>" (Disrupted Records, PO Box 14742, Richmond, VA 23221): "This record was made LOUD to be played LOUD" is the prominently displayed warning, and they're right. The Prevaricators' music is nothing so much as a high-powered attack on



their audience. The title cut is either a paean to religious violence or a call to off the Ayatollah -- either way it's sort of scary and more than a bit racist. The end cut, "A Team" is another amusing bit of glorified violence, to the tune of Alice Cooper's "Eighteen". I guess these guys are in tune with the times. (EP/MG)

PSYCHO, "Hosebags From Hell" (\$6 from Ax/ction Records, PO Box 623, Kendall Square, Cambridge, MA 02142): "Inspired Thrash" says the promo, which is at least half true. Loud and nasty music with rude and crude lyrics about sex and hate and lust and other cheerful things. The only redeeming features: an R.K. Sloane album cover and the unannounced (and presumably unauthorized) Madonna parody lurking at the end of the flip side, with speculations on what these guys would like to do to a virgin for the very first time. (LP/MG)

PUSSY GALORE, "Right Now" (Caroline Records, 5 Crosby St., New York, NY 10013): Like nothing else you ever heard, but still somehow recognizably near the heart of rock (Huey Lewis to the contrary). PG's music sounds like half of the tracks were left on the floor of the recording studio, but the influences are still there in the stark, metallic sound. Perhaps "influences" is the wrong word, for PG plays with the Stones or the Clash as if they were a bunch of mice caught by an overly sadistic cat, chewing up the conventions and spitting them out amidst blasts of sheer noise. Music for a scary future, teetering over the industrial abyss.

RACIST TAPE

The producer of this tape freely admits to being a "militant racist". He is also a historical revisionist, if you care to let that influence your buying decision.

DAVID McCALDEN, "Anarcho-racism" (\$5 from Truth Missions, PO Box 3849, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266): A recorded talk given by McCalden to the South Bay Libertarian Supper Club, arguing for racial separation and eugenics. Interesting mainly to show what wildly diverse viewpoints may be crammed under the anarchist umbrella. McCalden is also an interesting study in equating one's own prejudices with "natural law" despite all arguments to the contrary. Poor sound quality. (T/MG)

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN, "Reunion Wilderness" (Virgin Records, 9427 Alden Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210): Jangling guitars, heartfelt vocals, a gentle but full sound -- yes, this is another British band. This major-label release is a collection of singles and EPs from the indie Factory label. Lead singer Gary Newby (who also contributes songwriting and album cover art) has a pleasant boyish voice that drips with emotion when he wants it to, and the rest of the band can fill in the background with a simple-sounding but carefully-crafted background. Nothing too flashy, risky, or experimental here, just solid new wavish rock. (LP/MG)

RENDEZ-VOUS, self-titled (Media Control, 1490 E. Ryan Ave., Maplewood, MN 55109-4441): Although my copy came from Minnesota, this tape is a product of Poland. For some reason I expected industrial noise -- probably because of all the screw letters in the musicians' names -- but this is actually quite melodic, almost hypnotic, rock. It's not too slow and dreamy, but the instrumental quality does make it a reasonably cerebral experience even if one doesn't understand word one of the lyrics. An interesting novelty at the very least. (T/MG)

RITA MITSUOKO, "The Non Comprendo" (Virgin Records, 9427 Alden Dr., Beverly Hills, CA 90210): Inasmuch as most of the vocals are in French, this one has to stand or fall on its general sound, and I'm afraid it failed the test with me. With a lot of keyboards and light guitar and intrusive beat, much of this is pretty close to disco junk; about the only standout track is "Tonight", one of a bunch of rather insipid love songs. And the teakettle steam effect used in a bunch of the songs set my teeth on edge. (LP/MG)

RITUAL TENSION, "Hotel California" (\$5.98 from Independent Label Alliance, PO Box 594M, Bay Shore, NY 11706): RT are a moody, gloomy four-piece with a nasty outlook on life. Their extended cover of "Hotel California" plays repetitiously on the most psychotic parts of the original, with emphasis on the steely knives and stabbing the beast. The flipside holds a pair of originals, "Hatred" and "The Grind", which don't say a lot for people being friendly to other people. Definitely for depressed listening. (EP/MG)

RIVER ROSES, "Phoenix 99" (Monsoon Records, 814 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ 85719): Laid-back melodic pop. "Black Velvet Postcard", on the flipside, is the only real worthwhile track here, and that mainly because Caitlin von Schmidt has a pleasantly intriguing voice. Otherwise, most of this record just gets lost in the cracks between more standout things. (45/MG)

ROOM 291, "Our Lady of the Snakes" (Redux Records, 1085 14th St. #1030, Boulder, CO 80302): Cosmic improvisation. With sampler and synth and bass, PJ Kern and his crew put together a very intriguing collection. The mood ranges from slow and spacey on the metallic "Scorpio Bob's Nightmare" (featuring a sampled & distorted crowbar sound) to the energetic, almost frantic pinging notes of "The Fever Rationale". Several earfuls of strange new harmonies, at the very least. (T/MG)

ROUSERS, "Party Boy" b/w "Don't Let the Band Stop Playing" (Independent Label Alliance, PO Box 594M, Bay Shore, NY 11706): The A side here is a real winner, high-energy rockabilly with a dynamite uncredited harmonic line. The Rousers really could make the boys party if they can churn out a whole set like this. The flipside is a bit mellower, competent but nothing to write home about. But I could play "Party Boy" over and over all afternoon. (45/MG)

SAINT, "Time's End" (Pure Metal records, 944 Marcon Blvd., Allentown, PA 18103): A heavy-duty densely-layered metal attack that sounds better the louder you turn it up. It's interesting how well heavy metal and Christianity mix; these guys can sing "The End of Time is Near" or talk about the "Destroyers of the World" and be theologically correct instead of mindless trash. Maybe the Book of Revelations was written by a metalhead. (LP/MG)

NORMAN SALANT, "Sax Talk 12" Maxi-Single (CD Presents, 1230 Grant Ave. #531, San Francisco, CA 94133): I guess this is an effort to get Norman's work into the dance clubs, with the A side being two mixes of "Sax Talk" and the B side two versions of "No Night". But to my taste

they're all overprocessed, to the point of losing the stark beauty of Norman's sax playing, which ought to be the centerpiece. Get a copy of his "Sax Talk" LP instead [also on CD] and see what I'm talking about. (EP/MG)

SARCASTIC ORGASM, self-titled (Synn's Alright 'Now Records, PO Box 65171, Washington, DC 20035-5171): A smutty, disgusting, and absolutely hilarious record. "Soap-Opera Hallucinations" is a masterful distortion of daytime TV; "Name and Address Withheld" is your typical PENTHOUSE letter set to bizarre music (heavy on John Hoppe's keyboards) and "Hebephrenic List" puts the daily news in a whole new light. The music is alternately raucous and experimental, teetering on the edge of unlistenable at times, but anchored by the strong and clear vocals. A winning effort for those not easy to offend. (EP/MG)

SAVAGE STEEL, "Begins With a Nightmare" (New Renaissance Records, PO Box 11372, Burbank, CA 91510): When these guys concentrate, they conjure up all kinds of dark images that could induce nightmares in many a metal fan. Tight, taut, alternately speed demons and heavy rockers, the band is a solid unit. Unfortunately the vocals don't complement the music in any way. There are all the usual drama and yowls, but they lack substance, and what comes across is a bit hollow, detracting from enjoyment. But stay tuned for the next release; there's too much potential here to simply ignore. (LP/CS)

SET, "Burn the Bible" (\$4 from 4222 Naugle Dr., Fairlawn, NJ 07410): Ah, exuberant youth. This cassette comes packaged with authentic Biblical ashes and a suitably satanic quote from De Sade. Inside, the music is jarringly instrumental, featuring relentless driving beats and sharp-edged guitar overlays that drill into your brain. The few vocals are mostly mixed too low to follow, but the energy of the music makes this only a minor oversight. Metal-edged noise. (T/MG)

THE SHARKBITES, "Wait For Me" (After Hours Records, 14821 Lakeshore Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44110): Roots rock with a British feel and very nice saxophone work by Mike Oleska. Indeed, Oleska's work on the title cut is the most intriguing track of the whole album, although for danceability it takes a back seat to the jouncy "You Said She Said", a lover's lament in the best slightly-snide style. A full-length release from these guys would be a winner with the pop and dance crowd. (EP/MG)

THE SHAVED PIGS, "Breakfast is Served" (Porcine Records, 225 Central Park West #914, New York, NY 10024): They call themselves post-punk, but with their speed and garage feel they're much more mainline punk. Short, rapid-fire bursts of guitar chords form the nucleus of songs spit-crooned by the singer. Diversity is the name of the game here, pulling blues riffs, ballads and more into a garage-rock punk format. The zany energy this band puts out hints at a really terrific live show and could power a small nation. My pick song of the issue: "I Fucking Quit" -- it's tailor-made to be the anthem for every working stiff caught in the 9-to-5 grind. Sheer musical insanity. (T/CS)

THE SILOS, "Cuba" (\$8.98 from Independent Label Alliance, PO Box 594M, Bay Shore, NY 11706): Basically roots rock with a few oddball touches like violin and organ instrumentation in places. Some of this, like "Just This Morning", really rocks in a country-tinged down-home exuberant fashion, but most is more sedate, sometimes wistful, as in "Memories" or "She Lives Up the Street". But the band throws in plenty of changes of pace, so you can never be sure what's coming next. This could be an annoyance, but instead it works to hook the listener and leave him waiting for the next song. Not too flashy, but good solid workmanship. (T/MG)

SLOVENLY, "Riposte" (\$7.50 from SST Records, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): If the name makes you expect fast-and-loose drunken punk playing, you're in for a shock, but not necessarily a disappointment. Slovenly are a five-piece topheavy with guitars, and they play the sort of late-night-radio rock that won't distract you from writing term papers but won't put you to sleep either. The three guitarists put together moody riffs and progressions behind Steve Anderson's straight-up, near-plaintive vocals, and the whole thing is well-crafted. Nothing stands out, but that means none of the five tracks here are losers. (LP/MG)

SNAKEPIT, "From Vegas to Memphis" (\$2 from Dunghill Recordings, PO Box 3766, Eugene, OR 97403): A bargain price for this lively release from one of Eugene's hoppingest garage bands. Snakepit play good old-fashioned rock with a slight country tinge, and the seven studio tracks on the A side are pretty darned competent stuff. But things really get moving with the engagingly sloppy live set on the B side, worth listening to over and over again just to have an excuse to tape your toes while typing. (T/MG)

SONIC YOUTH, "Sister" (\$7.50 from SST, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): Twisted guitar musings from people who don't take any crap from music theory. SY use a lot of strange minor-key tunings in their songs (in fact, their PR says they have to carry zillions of guitars around with them) and the overall effect, even on the pleasant songs like "Cotton Crown" is downbeat; if not depressing at least sad. The lyrics are almost psychedelia: "She said Jesus had a twin who know nothing about sin/She was laughing like crazy at the trouble I'm in" or "bridges sinking into the sea/beautiful confusion". Just sit back and let the music wash over you and remove any preconceptions you had about all guitar bands sounding the same. (LP/MG)

THE TEXAS INSTRUMENTS, self-titled (\$8 from Rabid Cat Records, PO Box 49263, Austin, TX 78765): People keep comparing this band to early Dylan, and if they mean that David Woody plays a mean guitar and the boys have fine nasal western voices I guess it's apt. TI, though, are still playing music with a message of hope and rebellion, and that should count for something -- along with their frankly kick-ass musical style. When they get moving it's like putting Tabasco sauce on your toothbrush by mistake. Down-home rock that's worth a second listen. (LP/MG)

THROWING MUSES, "The Fat Skier" (Sire Records, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, 20th Fl., New York, NY 10019): And to think their first self-produced EP was reviewed in these pages. Well, as one might expect, this album lacks the sheer exuberance of their demo tape (still, I think, the best thing they have out), but it captures the innovative music and especially singing very well indeed. The A side is six all-new tunes, picked (I suspect) with an ear towards college radio, featuring the eclectic pop/folk music and the strange lyrics that characterize the bands. The flipside is a nine-minute version of

"Soul Soldier" (previously released on the 4AD import) with strange booming drums and processed baby-cries thrown in with many other experimental sounds. It's nice to see TM making it relatively big — now let's see the experimental/commercial side folded back in with the looseness that they seem to be in danger of losing. (LP/MG)

TMA, "What's For Dinner?" (\$8.98 from Independent Label Alliance, PO Box 594m, Bay Shore, NY 11706): This is a band that is punkrock. Not punk (pause) rock but punkrock, slured together, fast and slightly sloppy. Slightly fun. The titles are interesting: "Surf Nazis" and "Astrological Geek" to name a couple, and the lyrics aren't bad either. It's a shame they're not enunciated a bit more clearly so people can make them out. The music is run of the mill, but it's tightly executed with the enthusiastic vigor that only a punkrock band can have. (LP/CS)

TO DAMASCUS, "Come to Your Senses" (Restless Records, El Segundo, CA 90245-2428): After a few changes of personnel and label, the PR is trying to show off TD as being some sort of speed metal avatars. They don't live up to this, with the music being listenable, but they're not bad either. The saving grace for this album is the final cut, "Reconstruction", a song of fury and desperation that shows off the range of Sylvia Juncosa's guitar skills. (LP/MG)

TOHU VABOHU, self-titled (Frank Gunderson, PO Box 10341, Olympia, WA 98502): The name is from Genesis 1, the part about "without form, and void". That's appropriate for this collection of "found sounds, compositions & improvisations". In a way this is pre-music, noises groping towards melody and harmony before falling back into the primordial ooze from whence they came. Experimental but never harsh, the nearly 40 cuts on this tape are short, sometimes with vocals, sometimes just an attempt at music in a new mold. Plenty of ideas for future work here — sort of a sampler of new directions. (T/MG)

TOKEN ENTRY, "From Beneath the Streets" (Positive Force Records, PO Box 9184, Reno, NV 89507): More thrash from young men acutely aware of injustice. The lyrics are all pretty socially conscious (not that you can tell without referring to the printed version) and the music is fast and loud, heavy on a driving drum beat in most places and only occasionally skating over the line to anthemic. I like the messages, but the music behind this stuff sounds pretty much the same to me. (LP/MG)

THE TOMBOYS, "Mad Ball" (6551 Kester Ave. #7, Van Nuys, CA 91411): A girl group in the traditional mold: power pop with gently harmonized vocals. Bassist Sally and guitarist Stephanie trade off on the vocals, though I suspect Stephanie should do them all; her voice is clear and pure and fits in well with the ethos of the music. The songs are for the most part about love, frustrated but triumphant, and how it feels to be in it. (T/MG)

TREATY OF PARIS, demo tape (\$2 from 4 Henry St., Lakewood, NJ 08701): Definitely an anomaly. The ads call this "Electronic Dancefloor Sarcasm" and that's a pretty good description. The music is upbeat electronic, near-disco stuff, suitable for jiggling around at high speeds on the parquet. But the words are nasty rotten sludge, the sort of thing one hears on punk records: "Dead babies on the street/Dead babies to the beat", croons Jorge, hoping that someone will listen and become deranged. An exercise in cognitive dissonance. (T/MG)

TRUE WEST, "Hand of Fate" (CD Presents, 1230 Grant Ave. #531, San Francisco, CA 94133): Straightforward rock with a very slight country tinge. This tape features guest playing by members of Green on Red and Rain Parade, which should give you some hint where they're coming from. For the most part very melodic and relaxing, but the guitar work can really cook when they get going. The digital recording makes this a very professional-sounding and tight performance, a sound for TW to be proud of. (T/MG)

RICHARD TRUHLAR, "The Face of Another" (\$8.50 from Underwhich Editions, PO Box 262, Adelaide St., Stn., Toronto, ONT M5C 2J4, CANADA): One of the questions I usually ask myself in reviews is "Would I listen to this again?" In this case, the answer is "How much can I get". Truhlar puts together strikingly beautiful compositions using

sampling, synthesizers, and (if the PR is to be believed) "household utensils". They range from spacey to inspirational to just plain attractive to the ears. Truhlar's music is a mix of classical roots and modern sensibilities without being either outdated or mindlessly experimental — craftsmanship at its best. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Dagger Killer Comp. Vol. 1" (\$4 from Earl E. Grave, PO Box 18152, East Hartford, CT 06118): A collection of bands from psychedelic to punk, though there's no metal, for example. Hot tracks include those laid down by A.P.P.L.E., Joe & the Guys, The Beguiled, and Psycho. With 14 bands there's a lot to choose from here, mainly live-sounding powerful tracks that will blow your speakers out. Free Love Society's killer guitar action is a fitting close to the whole. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "I Am Music" (\$3.50 from Jordan Gruener, PO Box 43171, Tucson, AZ 85733-3171): "20 songs! 6 Bands! Tucson's Best!" — may be overstating the case, but this is a nice collection nonetheless. The best parts of this are the garage band tracks by the Deadbolts and the Mourning Glories, although Al Perry's craziness is a strong contender ("Cum-line" may not have a point but is certainly innovative). The Cryptics contribute some nice if undistinguished thrash, and the whole tape is put together well, with the different bands being mixed together instead of presenting lumps of indigestible stuff all in one place. Also features Bloodspasm and Jim Parks. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Last White Christmas, II" (Bad Compilation Tapes, PO Box 16205, San Diego, CA 92116): A collection of Italian hardcore recorded live in Italy — high-powered and raw-edged. Three bands are featured: the near-legendary Cheetah Chrome Motherfuckers, I Refuse It!, and Traumatic. They all share a similar sound, heavy on edge-of-distortion almost tinny guitar licks and with gravelly vocals shouted out in front. There's some English here but it's as hard to make out as on American hardcore records. It doesn't matter, because the attraction of this music is the sheer energy that goes into its making. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Nine // Underground" (Perimeter Records, PO Box 28882, Atlanta, GA 30358-0882): A collection of electronic and industrial music culled from the airwaves in Atlanta a few years back.

Most of this stuff is pretty extreme, with crashing noises, anguished vocals, and repetitive, annoying electronic tracks predominating. Performers represented include PVC Precinct, Clubfoot, Incest, Young Schizophrenics and Jarboe, who is now working with the Swans. Not easy listening by any means, but the multi-layered rhythms do grow on you after a while. (LP/MG)

Various Artists, "None Whatsoever" (Vacant Lot Records, Box 2187, Empire State Plaza Stn., Albany, NY 12220): Seems like most of the compilations I get are way fringe stuff like hardcore or experimental. Not this one, which tends more towards rock and even pop. The sound isn't all nicey-nice — the strongest tracks are from Expando Brain, Ten Tall Men, and Beginners Only, all of whom produce hard-edged but listenable full sounds. Nods also to the industrial/pop fusion of Signs of Life and the Kafkaesque name of Hunger Artists. (LP/MG)

Various Artists, "Panic on 13th" (Dunhill, PO Box 3766, Eugene, OR 97403): A compilation of garage bands, with side A being pretty pure garage rock. Things get more eclectic on the back, with St. Huck purveying neo-psychedelia, Bovine Impulse assaulting the ears with grating anarcho-noise, and E-13 cutting loose with sheer thrash. 9 bands and 18 tracks all told. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Speed Metal Hell Vol. 3" (New Renaissance Records, PO Box 11372, Burbank, CA 91510-1372): Well, I've tried, but so far I haven't been able to tune my ears to make fine distinctions within this genre. The 11 bands on this album all produce fast music, heavy with lead guitar riffs that edge into the supersonic, and feature vocals that are screamed out by aggressive young males. The main battle seems to be over which bands and songs are most disgusting, and the winner here is Papsmeat and their cheerful little ditty "Die Killing". (LP/MG)

Various Artists, "Tell the Children" (\$4 from Jerry Lehane III, PO Box 0624, Newark, DE 19715-0614): An extremely strong compilation, made somewhat suspect by the note "Gleaned from the collections of..." some of the producers friends. Whether they were legitimately or otherwise obtained, though, the 25 tracks on this tape range from spoken word to funk to roots rock to thrash and back again, all in high-quality sound and most with a lot of pep. Notable are the tracks from the Zippers, Honour Society, Youth in Asia, and the Moaners. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Tropical Viruses #1" (\$4 from Bad Compilation Tapes, PO Box 16205, San Diego, CA 92116): BCT has a reputation for capturing punk music from all over the world, and this is a prime example. It's a collection of Brazilian hardcore, featuring a couple of dozen bands and songs from that steamy jungle country. Hardcore proves to be an international language; I can not understand the shouted lyrics just as well in Portuguese, and the music will still plaster your cat to the wall if it's in front of the speakers when you crank them up. (T/MG)

Various Artists, "Tuatara" (\$8.50 from CD Presents, Ltd., 1230 Grant Ave. #531, San Francisco, CA 94133): Bands from Down Under have gotten a lot of ink in the US punk press lately but they've been tough to get hold of. This compilation of releases from New Zealand's Flying Nun label fills part of the void. The FN artists aren't so much punk as garage bands; there's a looseness, an energy that is hard to describe but leads to me wanting to play the record over and over again. Best cuts: the hilarious "Brain that Wouldn't Die" from the Tall Dwarfs and the eerie "Death and the Maidens" from The Verlaines — and there are ten more cuts. Great liner notes and band photos on the foldout cover too. A must have. (LP/MG)

Various Artists, "Viva Umkhonto!" (\$7 from Mordam records, PO Box 988, San Francisco, CA 94101): A benefit compilation, with all money going to Umkhonto We Sizwe, a South African organization dedicated to overthrowing the current regime there. This is fast-paced hardcore, with lyrics devoted to exploring the dimensions of repression.

Standout tracks come from 762 Uncertain, The Ex, Scream, and Everything Falls Apart. Comes with lots of literature on the history of revolt in South Africa. (LP/MG)

Various Artists, "The Wailing Ultimate!" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): A great idea, this compilation features tracks from 14 of Homestead's artists, past and present. I'd heard a lot of this before, but Big Dipper's "You're Not Patsy" was a nice surprise, upbeat and fun. Other outstanding work comes from Big Black, Antietam, Squirrel Bait, Phantom Tollbooth, Live Skull, Death of Samantha, and Great Plains, who wrap the whole works up with the sarcastic "Letter to a Fanzine". The best possible introduction to this major indie label. (LP/MG)

Various Artists, "Who Is Fat Mike?" (\$4 from J.C. Coleman, PO Box 85807, Seattle, WA 98145): To answer the title question, FM is apparently a group creation of a batch of Seattle musicians, artists and other wackos. This is a tape devoted to his adoration, including several of the fifteen versions of the "Fat Mike Song". It's mostly synthesizer and computer stuff, repetitive tunes that for some reason remind me of GILLIGAN'S ISLAND, with vocals extolling the virtues of this twinkie-eating large person. Satirical, but I'm not sure what they're making fun of. (T/MG)

THE VERLAINES, "Juvenalia" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): New Zealand rockers who I had only heard before on the "Wailing Ultimate" compilation. Well, with their head-on jangly guitar attack backed up by lush instrumental passages, they're worth hearing more of. Lots of youthful angst here, lots of drinking and anger at society, but best of all, lots of good, sharp-edged rock and roll. (LP/MG)

VIV AKAUDREN, "I'll Call You Sometime" (Akashic Records, PO Box 23265, Detroit, MI 48223): An incredible release that I can hardly believe is the work of only three musicians, the sound is so full and intricate. They can barely be contained by a record jacket, let alone a short review, thanks to their range of interests and styles. The album opens with a high-powered sonic assault in the form of "Of" that leaves the listener overwhelmed and receptive, and ends with the beautifully ambient "Farrowbone". In between they run the gamut from near-gothic to storytelling, all with grace and beauty. The album includes a bonus live EP featuring both all-out and more ambient tracks. Too eclectic for any but their own label, these folks are worth tracking down on their next tour. (LP/MG)

THE WALLMEN, self-titled (\$3 from 7711 Lisa Ln., North Syracuse, NY 13212): Some of the best studio work I've heard from these SubGenial bizzaros, divided into the Surreal Side and the Minimal side. The first is aptly named, with such lyrics as "She opens the beer can/It spits out her gizzard" and "Jesus dies for your sins/6 or 7 times a day", over screwball synths, electric guitars, and other whatnot. The other, though, I would have called the stylistic side, inasmuch as it features forays into reggae, C&W and even a kiddie song that's not quite appropriate for Mr. Rogers ("The sun is like poison/and it burns your life away".) Music on the edge of reality. (T/MG)

THE WARNING, "Repent or Die" (124 S. Lemon, Azusa, CA 91702): "A division of Radicals for Christ." Say what? Opinions aside, let's get down to music, which is exactly what they do -- get down and get mean. This puts most "speed metal" bands to shame. Intense, furious, driven, rhythms leap out at the listener, topped off by shredded vocals of the most hardcore variety. The music is so good that the question of whether it's all a put-on pales in comparison. A note to the band, though: if you're serious, a lyric sheet would be a great help. (T/CS)

WHEN PEOPLE WERE SHORTER AND LIVED NEAR THE WATER, self-titled (Trace Elements Records, 172 E. 4th St. #11D, New York, NY 10009): These guys are in the rock arena, somewhere between AOR and punk -- too noisy for the one, too restrained for the other. As such, they might be a decent club act, but the record is noteworthy only for the musical version of the Gettysburg Address. (45/MG)

WHOOPIING CRANES, "That's What I Need" (Zip Records, 226 E. 10th St. #5, New York, NY 10003): This trio is sort of over-slick for my tastes, mainly rooted in the pop tradition with occasional excursions to less-restrained instrumentation, as with the violin track on the closing "Creeping Shadows". They remind me of a slightly faster REM, which isn't much of a recommendation unless you're a college radio DJ. (LP/MG)

WIGGLEPIG, "Meat Market Icons" (59 Silverhill Dr., Islington, ONT M9B 3W3, CANADA): My pick hit of the issue. Wigglepig is Susan Chick and Gary Johnson playing a variety of electronic noisemakers, combining them with other noises, and having a good old time. The B side of the tape is mainly found noises, distorted radio, pounding and other semi-industrial music, heavy on relentless rhythms and decidedly non-commercial. The A side may not be commercial either but is a lot closer to being experimental pop, though it edges into country or New Age at various points. My fave track is the psychedelically disturbing "Scratch Glass-- Turn Blue", which has (no doubt unintended) personal connotations for me (Anyone know what Fraser Smith is up to these days?), but the Army-inspired "Man's Best Friends" is a close second. A college classic waiting to be discovered. Comes with a nifty booklet full of dead pigs and a thoroughly disgusting poster -- write and find out how you can get a copy. (T/MG)

WORLD OF DISTORTION, self-titled (Stanton Park Records, PO Box 58, Newtonville, MA 02160): They bill themselves as "Punk Rock Meets Hendrix". What that means is that the guitar solos are unabashedly self-indulgent and overly frequent. Other than that, these dudes have a hard-driving sound, but this disc doesn't particularly grab me. Loud and Proud but not standouts from the pack. (45/MG)

ZBS CASSETTE ADVENTURES

ZBS is a non-profit bunch that does these great storytelling cassettes. I shamed 'em into sending me a couple, and I think you should send them lots of money to find out about their stuff for yourself. Their address is RR#1 Box 1201, Fort Edward, NY 12828. \$1.50 postage & handling on orders up to \$25, \$2.25 up to \$50.

RUBY: Subtitled "The Adventures of A Galactic Gunshoe", this is a science-fiction mystery in three-minute segments, seventy of them. The story sweeps back and forth across the planet of Summa Nulla, as the tough and sexy heroine tries to discover who's been screwing around with Reality. On the way she meets androids, genetically-engineered assassins, and Monet, a gentlebeing from another race who insists that unemployment is a cure, not a disease. Rollicking fun, with lots of zap-gun action and cliffhangers galore. The whole four-cassette series is \$25, or you can sample just the first for \$7 -- but be warned, you'll end up laying out the twenty bucks more to get the rest and find out how things come out!

STICKS: A horror story by Karl Edward Wagner recorded in Kunstkopf Binaural Sound, a process which (with headphones) exploits the directionality of your ears much better than stereo -- it's like being in the middle of the rather tense action. The flipside, "Saturday Night at the White Woman Watering Hole" and "The Bleeding Man" contains two more shockers, interspersed with one another. Not a tape to be listened to late at night.

MUSICAL NOTES:

* Agression (PO Box 8203, Oxnard, CA 93030) sent me a bunch of stickers and ads for their hardcore band. Too bad they didn't send any music. Nice skulls.

* Audio Evolution Radio Show II now has 3 hours a week in Sacramento, and they're looking for any indie cassette stuff you care to send for their use. Co-sponsored by SOUND CHOICE and BAND AGE, the person to send stuff to is George Charpled, 4124 22nd St., Sacramento, CA 95819.

* THE AUSTIN MUSIC INDUSTRY DIRECTORY (\$2 from PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765) may be of interest to some folks in the Southwest -- it's an extensive newsprint listing of composers, record companies, sound managers, promotional agents, instrument sellers, and others in the music industry. An idea that could profitably be copied in almost any sizeable city, too.

* Austin Outer Limits is a nationally syndicated college radio show featuring live music. Original rock bands interested in appearing on the show should send a tape to AOL at 3108 N. Lamar #205, Austin, TX 78705.

* Backbone (HCR Box 432, Chelan, WA 98816) offers a free catalog of "independent import & reggae" records.

* Corrosion of Conformity (PO Box 5091, Raleigh, NC 27650) would like you to buy their records, stickers, T-shirts and boxer shorts -- but they didn't send any for review.

* The Demented Mind Mill, parent label of Theatre of Ice (423 N. Creston #154, Mesa, AZ 85203) has announced a series of cassette singles "Free to alternative-minded radio stations...A single a month forever, all you got to do is write and ask for them."

* Dunhill Recordings (PO Box 3766, Eugene, OR 97403) sent me their catalog of underground recordings from Eugene, \$4 and down. Probably a stamp will get you a copy. They also sent some rambling

publications and artistic artifacts from Snakepit, one of their major bands, which is either reviewed above or in next issue. Fun-loving folks that probably wouldn't be averse to some mail art trades.

* Elderly Instruments (1100 N. Washington, PO Box 14210, Lansing, MI 48901) sent their 15th anniversary acoustic instruments catalog. The cover price is two bucks, and for that you get 84 pages with everything from 15 cent guitar picks to \$1300 banjos.

* GGE Records (PO Box 5088, Kent, OH 44240) is putting together an international compilation of original works on cassette. Deadline for submissions is December 31, 1987.

* The Great Atlantic Radio Conspiracy (2743 Maryland Ave., Baltimore, MD 21218) sent an ad for their latest round of taped radio shows. You can choose from topics like The Pesticide Plague, The Politics of Welfare, and Don't Desert the Rain Forests for five bucks a pop.

* John Doe Recordings (PO Box 664, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT M4Y 2N6, CANADA) sent me a single-sheet flyer for their "electronic, experimental, electro-acoustic, and post-industrial" cassettes.

* KAOS 89 1/3 (The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505) sent their playlist, and they have a simple policy: they add everything they get from the indies and any major label releases that they like. I guess it's an easy way for you record producers to get playlist credit to show around. Heavy on rock, but also reggae, country, hip hop and jazz are listed, among others.

* KZSC 88.1 FM (University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064) sent their playlist, an interesting mix of major labels and the larger indies, with an extensive jazz section.

* MORE FIENDS, the band that includes underground artist Luna Ticks, has a miniconic-sized book of press clippings, drawings, and a lyric available for an SASE from 424 S. 45th St., Philadelphia, PA 19104.

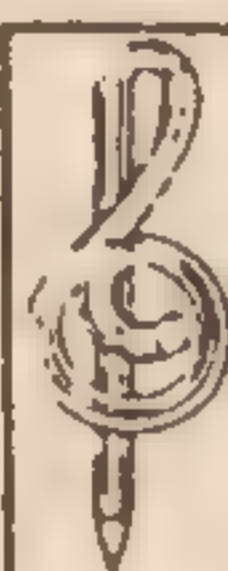
* PANIC (Sri, PO Box 1031, Adelaide St. Stn., Toronto, ONT M5C 2K4, CANADA) is "A Toronto-based organisation dedicated to the exposure and promotion of independent, experimental music." They put together a great promo pack with pages from a lot of local musicians, which included the Wigglepig tape I just raved about. They're also putting together a contact list of other people for the Toronto folks to use, so if you're a distributor or ziner or networker or musician or whatever, send them a few bucks and get in touch.

* Swinging Axe Productions (PO Box 199, Northridge, CA 91328) has a new address and a new catalog listing their 45 tapes, mainly experimental and industrial. You can probably get a copy of this sheet for an SASE.

* Upheaval Records (PO Box 4326, Greensboro, NC 27404) sent me their catalog and some stuff from other area companies -- looks like there's a lot going on down there, most of it strange. Try an SASE.

* WKDI 93.5 FM (544 College Ave., DeKalb, IL 60115): This is the campus station at Northern Illinois University, and they sent me their playlist. They're anxious to add almost any sort of indie music. Looks like they incline towards noisier stuff.

* The ZBS Foundation (RR #1 Box 1201, Fort Edward, NY 12828) sent me a pretty promo flyer for their latest Jack Flanders audio adventure, "Dreams of Rio", featuring sounds captured on-site in the Amazonian jungles. This six-hour adventure on tape is available for \$37.25 or you can write for their free catalog.



STAND OUT FROM
THE CROWD...
Let people know who you
are and what you're doing.

PUBLIC RELATIONS
MARKETING
PROMOTION
WRITING

I can work by mail, by
phone, or in person.
Contact: C. Schutzbank
PO Box 15921
Philadelphia, PA 19103
[215]561-9027

BOOKS

THERE'S NOTHING
LIKE CURLING UP
WITH A GOOD BOOK



AT&T TOLL-FREE 800 CONSUMER DIRECTORY (\$9.95 from PO Box 44068, Jacksonville, FL 32232-4068, Attn: Directory Subscriptions): A collection of thousands of toll-free numbers, and an essential tool for the die-hard Falwell Gamer. Not every toll-free number is here (some are internal to companies and thus unlisted), but everyone from A Aalavera Survey Alliance to Zytron Sports Injury Products is. There's also a yellow-pages section grouping by type of business (though there are no categories for "Multinational War Contractors" or "Right-Wing Religions"). For some reason they also provide a calorie counter and vintage wine chart, perhaps to give you something to read while on hold. And of course you can order, toll-free (if you have a major credit card) by calling 1-800-426-8686, ext. 222.

Stephen L. Beaumont, THREE CHEERS FOR YOUTH: A STUDY OF THE PUNK PHENOMENON (\$4 from 93 Russett Ave., Toronto, ONT M6H 3M4, CANADA): This is basically a sociological research paper, and it suffers from some of the common failings of the genre, namely wordiness and repetition (though, fortunately, not too much bafflegab). On the other hand, it's fairly insightful, thanks to Beaumont's use of the participant-observer technique, which basically means that he's a punk too.

Beaumont attempts to strip the idea of Punk down to the barest bones, and what he finds is a classless rebellion and communication movement, one which started with no specific targets but is not trying to fight concrete abuses fostered by the system. Perhaps the most useful section of the paper, at least to the outside observer, is his quick summary of the history of the movement; between that and the survey results reported, those of us on the outside can get some idea of where this phenomenon came from and where it is going. (44 pp. 8 1/2 x 11)

Ronald B. Brown, HOMEMADE GUNS AND HOMEMADE AMMO (from Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): Though he starts with warnings and disclaimers and cautions on legality and safety, it's pretty clear that Brown has tried everything in this book and it works for him. Building a single-shot twelve-gauge shotgun -- or even a double-barrel model -- at home proves to be an almost frighteningly trivial task. The gun Brown details is made up exclusively of parts easily available in any hardware store -- in fact, I have a bunch of the pieces in my garage right now. The ammunition can be bought if times are good or made up of grocery-store ingredients if times are bad. About the only thing he doesn't tell you how to make is the shell casing -- but if you can't get one, you can always build a muzzle-loader instead. If the political climate were a bit worse, I might stock up on the pieces shown, just in case of emergency. The instructions are clear, simple, and require only hand tools and a bit of common sense. (182 pp. tpb)

CONNEXIONS DIRECTORY OF CANADIAN ORGANIZATIONS FOR SOCIAL

JUSTICE 1987 (\$17.95 from Connexions, 427 Bloor St. west, Toronto, ONT M5S 1X7, CANADA): This is an impressive listing of some 2000 social action and change groups, limited to those operating in Canada. The major categories are: Arts, Media and Culture; Economy, Poverty and Work; Education; Environment; Gay and Lesbian; Gender Equality; Health; Human Rights; International; Native Peoples; Peace; Urban; and Information/Resource Provider. All of the Canadian organizations I can think of seem to be in here, and a great many more besides.

Each entry contains the obvious information on who to contact, a brief description, and lists of purposes and goals as well as activities and services. The structure and number of staffers is also given for every organization here, ranging from (a random selection) Womenspace to Oxfam Canada to Third World Resource Center to Radio Peace.

Finally, the whole is extensively indexed: by name, by location, and by keyword. An excellent addition to the bookshelf of anyone trying to find similar right-thinking people. (160 pp. 8 1/2 x 11 tpb.)

THE CRANSTON FILE (\$2 from Tim Cridland, PO Box 85874, Seattle, WA 98145-1874): I don't know where Tim got this, but he's willing to make copies for other conspiracy addicts at a reasonable cost. This is apparently the ravings of one Stephen Henstrom, aka Dan Frank. What this person has to say is (as far as I can tell) that Alan Cranston is running the country (or "Reich" as he so charmingly terms it) and killing anyone who gets in his way or tries to tip the public off. The first few victims are predictable -- John and Robert Kennedy and Marilyn Monroe -- but after that, things get stranger. Apparently there are signals and signs that can be put in interviews and photos, and a lot of celebrities are using them to try to wake the public up. So Cranston has killed (or had killed -- Henstrom isn't always very clear) Natalie Wood, John Belushi, Samantha Smith, and plenty more. Done in the best raving schizoid style, with handwritten additions in the margin and worried notes about how the writer is in terrible danger for trying to wake the rest of us up. (16 pp. xerox including poster-sized sheet)

Mary DeYoung, CALL TO REASON (\$7.50 from PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252): If the address looks familiar, that's because this book was written by the wife of our resident curmudgeon. CALL TO REASON is a collection of newspaper columns that ran in a small town paper in the late 70's, on one of the most unimaginable topics: atheism. Mary managed to write a couple of dozen tightly reasoned columns before the town's religious establishment succeeded in drumming her out of the paper. In them she takes to task some of the most common arguments for God's existence, and provides windows to the vast world of atheist and materialist writing that exists in the works of authors like Haeckel, Ingersoll, and Haldane. She also catalogs some of the injustices perpetrated in the name of religion, and in general argues

that what we see, is it. Some of the funnest reading consists of letters from the local pastor, who tried everything up to and including accusations of communism to get the column stopped. Still, the self-assurance of reason shows through. (50 pp. pb)

John Eberly, THE LAST CIGARETTE (\$5 from Mumbles, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): A fairly successful melding of the visual and the verbal, this book consists of full-page collages with text on the facing sheets. The pictures may seem meaningless or bizarre at first, but when one reads the words, they start to make sense. The whole tells the story, in this paired medium, of Bill, a man who is indeed down to his last cigarette and very little else. John plays skillfully with the narrative viewpoint and teases the reader with alternate grossness and reflection, occasionally intruding some editorial matter such as a comment on past reviews. A strange trip through a dark corner of the brain. (34 pp. 8 1/2 x 11)

Matt Feazell, CYNICALMAN...THE PAPERBACK! (\$7.95 from Thunder Baas Press, PO Box 1614, Baltimore, MD 21203): The publishers of the recently-discontinued 39 SCREAMS are still in the comics business, and now they've hooked up with one of the best underground talents around, Matt Feazell. Matt is no stranger to many readers of FF, but for the few of you who remain unenlightened, he has taken the minicomic format and turned it into something quite different than just a smaller comic. Matt draws in stick-figures, and does it well -- it's a style rather than a handicap, and he's proven before that he can do "real" comics with the best of them -- and indulges himself in having fun while he does so. The result is a

continuing romp through satire, self-reference, and just plain humor.

This book is a collection of 37 of Matt's minis, and includes all of his best-known and -loved characters. In addition to Cynicalman, there's Antisocialman, Cute Girl, Mr. Spot, Spud & Ernie, Stupid Boy, and even Ant Boy (though I would have liked more of the latter -- perhaps in Volume II?). They romp around Minneapolis and St. Louis and Raleigh (depending on where Matt was living) and make fun of everything from superheroes to authority figures. Don't buy the next Garfield collection; save your money for this one. (190 pp. tpb)

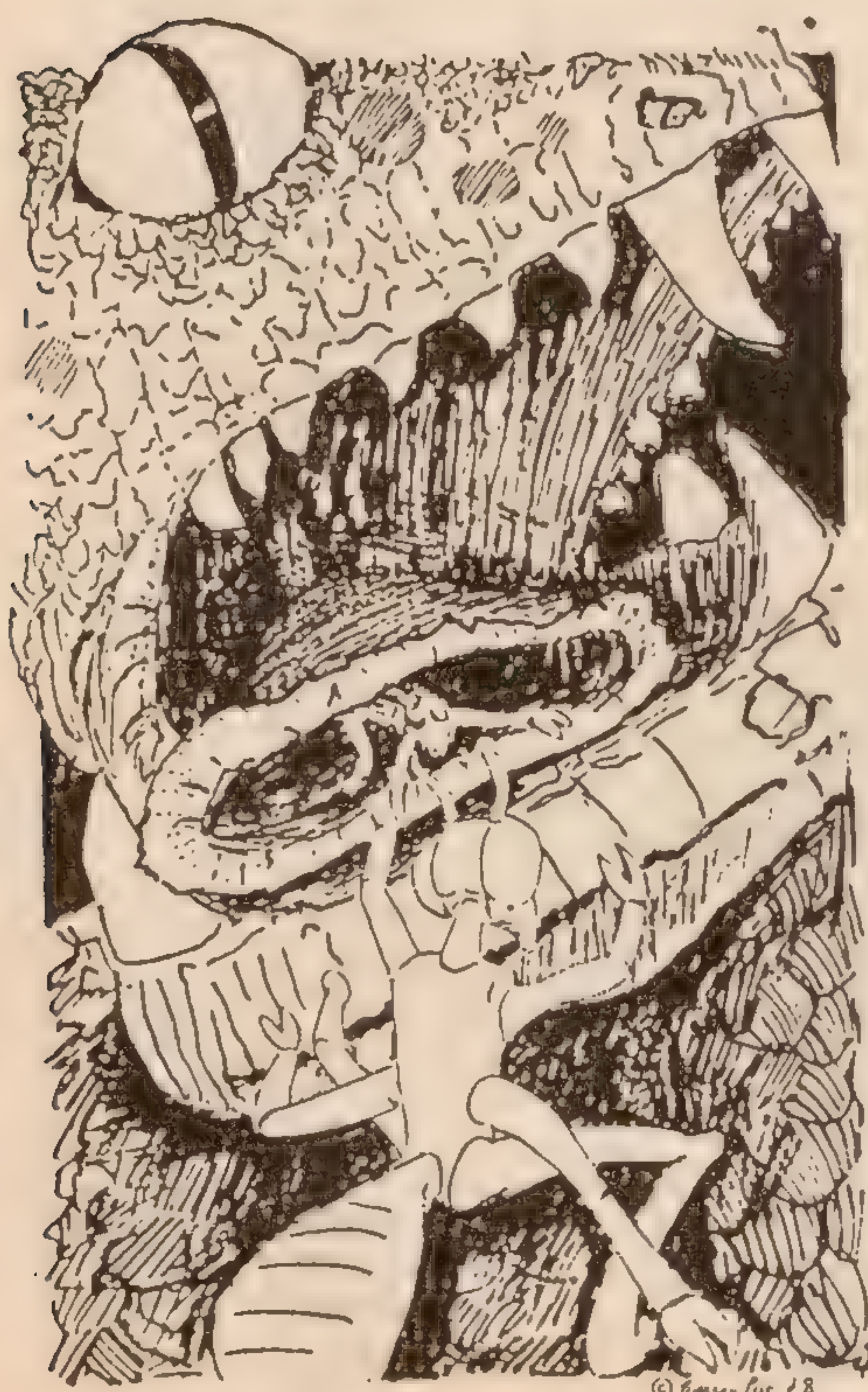
F.R.E.D., STRANGE THINGS HAPPEN HERE (\$1 (?) from 36 Erskine Dr., Morristown, NJ 07960): You can't keep a good religion down, and this pamphlet is the most recent outpouring I've seen from the Discordians. yes, F.R.E.D. stands for Fifth Religious Erisian Disorganization, which allegedly dates back to 1979. However, they seem to have learned a lot of their marketing from the SubGenii, and parts of this tract are in fact bald-facedly stolen from the Muthah Church. Still, it's a nice-looking baby-talk presentation of basic Discordian catmas, and might cause a normal or two to start wondering. And it could be just the tip of the iceberg... (12 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2)

FREE MARKET YELLOW PAGES 1987-1988 (\$5 from Dagny Enterprises, PO Box 224, Long Beach, CA 90801): Well, this guide to the libertarian entrepreneurs in the country is certainly growing quickly enough; this edition is twice the size of the previous one, though some of the growth seems to be in the form of larger ads. If you're after a publisher or a newsletter this is certainly the place to go; such enterprises are proportionately over-represented in the libertarian community. In fact, as the publisher notes, primary producers (butchers, bakers, candlestick makers) are conspicuous by their absence. Still there are a few people making things here, including a computer manufacturer and some practicing engineers. But the more typical page of ads has heads for "Self-Defense, Self-Improvement, Self-Realization, Seminars, Shoppers Service, Ski Resorts, Sound Consultants, Speakers..." An interesting window into the libertarian community. (104 pp. 8 1/2 x 11)

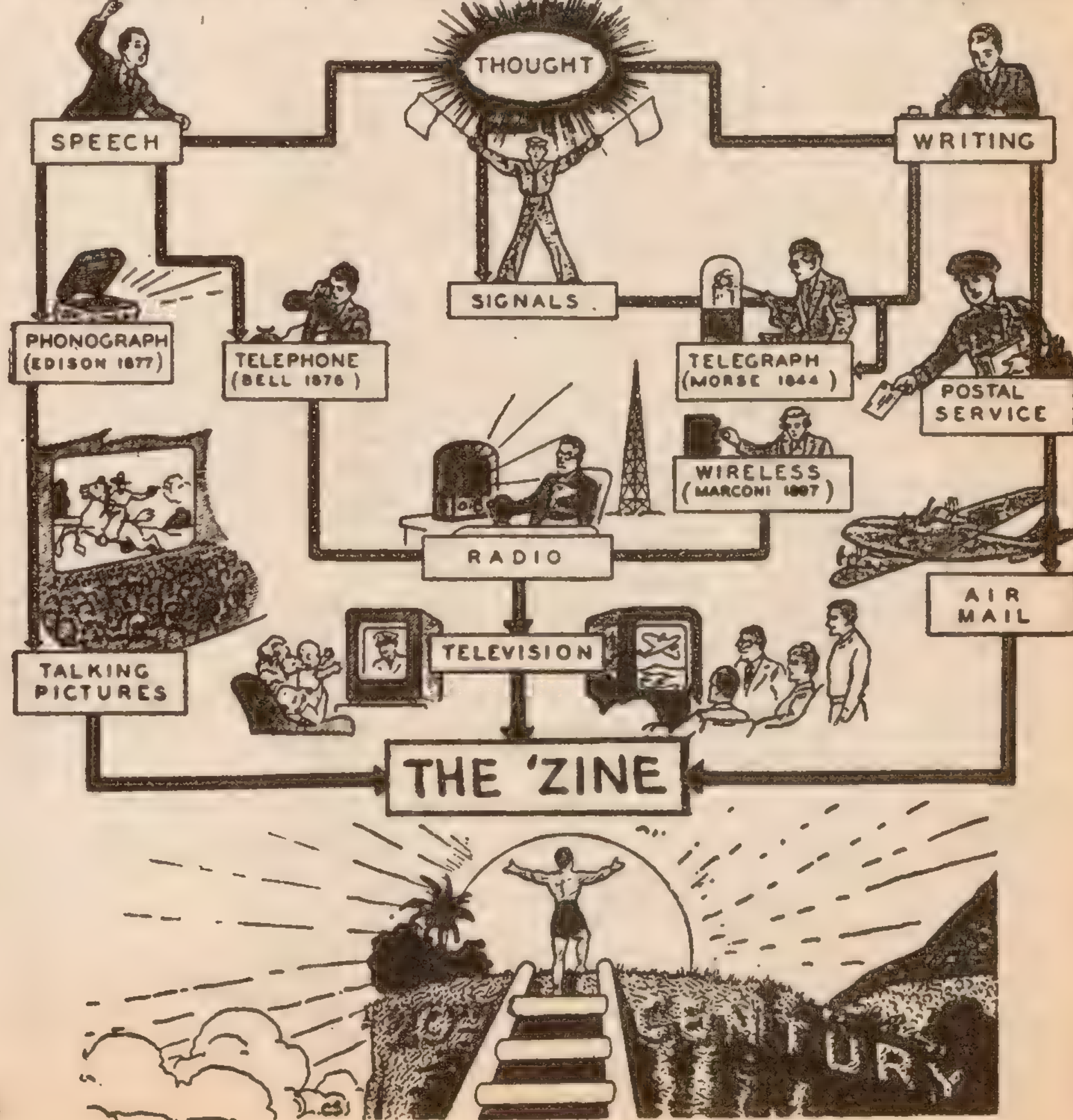
A FROG IN MY THROAT (\$1.50 from Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City, KS 66523-1329): The winners of the SCAVENGER'S NEWSLETTER 1987 Killer Frog contest. A "Killer Frog" is a "horror story so overdone it becomes laughable", according to Janet. I fear this one seems less successful than the '86 anthology -- perhaps because I have read so many stories similar to these in the alternative horror press since last year that it seems almost superfluous to try and collect them. However, there are certainly high points. C.B. Leiche's "Septicus", the story of a plumbing system run amok, has its moments, as does Jody Forest's poem "Fun Guy From Yuggoth". But what am I to say about Chuck Snow's "Take it Off", which I liked the most of the stories here? The problem is that it's not quite bad enough to belong here -- or, rather, it wouldn't have been out of place in half a dozen literary zines that I forebear to name. Be that as it may, if you like horror fiction enough to enjoy laughing at it, this anthology remains a must. (36 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2)

Bob Grumman, A STRAYNGE BOOK (\$4 from PO Box 3621, Port Charlotte, FL 33949-3621): Yes, a strange book indeed. The cover tells us that this is "A wacko, anti-censorship bunny-bear book for Very Smart kids and 11 adults whose names cannot at this time be divulged" and that about covers it. This is a book that does not behave as a book should -- it's utterly self-referential, pages turn upside down with (mostly) no warning, another book wanders in, and at least one of the characters has no business being in it. Great fun to read, with a few cryptically-spelled words and intriguing line drawings on every page, and a rather nice moral. (40 pp. 5 1/2 x 4 1/4)

Lois Jennie Hendricks, ONLY ONCE (\$1 from Mother of Ashes Press, PO Box 135, Harrison, ID 83833-0135): A strange little story chapbook -- the back cover blurb reads "Murky characters, casual sex, desperate plotting, sordid settings & scant attention to craft" and is more or less faithful to the contents. The story line concerns a biker who is having trouble with women of one sort or another but can't seem to kick them. There may be some redeeming graces here, but I'm not sure what they are, beyond Hendricks' simple, direct narrative voice. (24 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2)



THE EVOLUTION OF MODERN MEANS OF COMMUNICATION



Sean Wolf Hill, THE HOOSIER POET PILGRIMAGE or SEARCH FOR THE MINISTRY OF JAMES DEAN (50 cents from 1922 Emerson St., Sayton, OH 45406): A sort of small-press version of BLUE HIGHWAYS without the interminable boring philosophy. Then again, Hill didn't travel as far as Moon. Rather, he drove from Dayton up to Fairmount, where James Dean is planted, and on the way tried to come to some terms with small-town America and one of big-town America's heroes. The best part is the long conversation with Len Harvey, the minister who read the eulogy for Dean. Fun reading for anyone who ever wanted to hop in the car and just drive somewhere, but never did it. I got as far as Cucamonga myself once, but I had to be drunk to do it -- Sean was sober and writes interesting stuff about his trip. (20 pp. 8 1/2 x 11)

Bill Kaysing, GREAT HIDEOUTS OF THE WEST (from Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): Billed as "An Idea Book for Living Free", I'm afraid this one struck me as a rather padded production. There's no denying that Bill has lived all over the west for decades, mostly evading notice by the authorities. But the concrete advice here doesn't boil down to much more than "Find a place that won't be noticed and live cheap". For the unimaginative, his

looks at rural real estate listings, trailer plans and boat prices might be worthwhile, but I don't feel like I learned a whole lot from this book. Perhaps "living free" is a state of mind and practice that doesn't translate readily into words. (170 pp. tpb)

LIST OF POLITICAL PRISONERS IN THE USSR (DM 30 & postage -- call it \$25 -- from Das Land und die Welt eV, Schwanthalerstr. 73/V, D-8000 Munchen 2, WEST GERMANY): A fat listing of some 700 known political prisoners, with their ages, charges, medical problems, expected dates of release, and location -- where these things are known. The book also provides a listing of articles of the Criminal Code applicable to these prisoners, maps of the various camps, an explanation of the Soviet postal addresses for the camps, and photographs of about half of the people listed. It's a mind-numbing, depressing sort of book -- pages and pages of people who are doing long years of hard labor for writing zines or raising flags or putting up slogans or celebrating religious rituals. But I can see that it would be an invaluable resource to the committed activist. (268 pp. pb)

MILITARY SERVICE: CHOICE OR CHANCE? (\$1 (?) from VVAW, PO Box 74, Van Brunt Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11215): An educational



NOTICE

IF YOU must send

FF

CLASS

You'll Have To Take full price

or ELSE

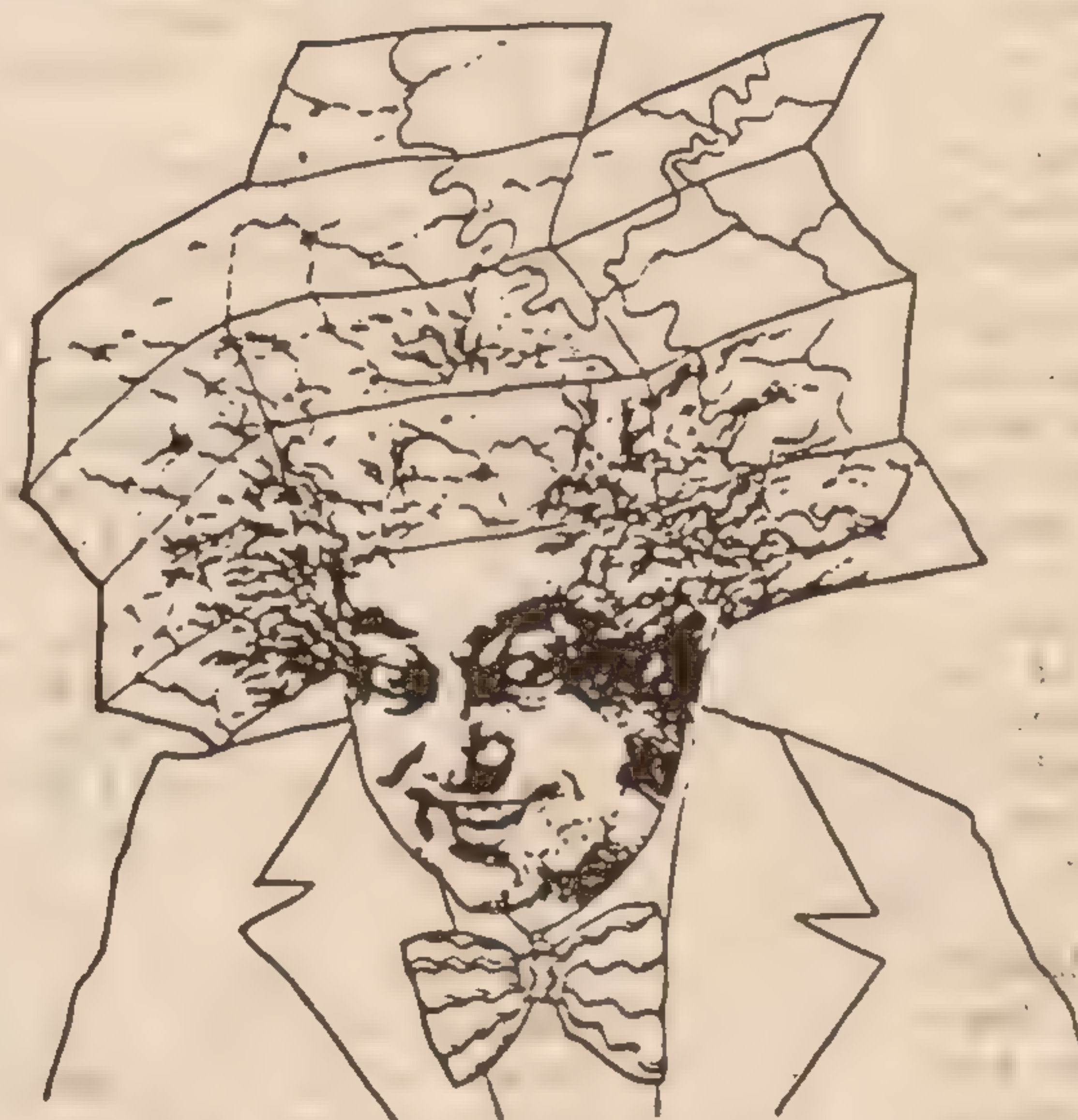


Looking for an APA?

Looking for first rate political discussion?

Then look no further than

WE THE PEOPLE



LEFT, RIGHT, & ALL OTHER POSITIONS ON THE POLITICAL MAP!

contact: Michael Wolff
PO Box 52113
Houston, Texas
77052

tabloid put out by the Vietnam Veterans Against the War. They focus on draft registration and enlistment as the current things to worry about, but there is much more information here. Topics covered include the way that a draft can be expected to work, the chances for job training in the military, the position of women in the armed forces, and the maneuvers being carried out in Central America. All of this is interspersed with graphic quotes and pictures from Vietnam. An extremely sobering publication, and one which might even help fight the poverty draft. (12 pp. tabloid)

David Moroski, *THE GRADUAL VISITOR* (\$4 from PO Box 80803, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080): A collection of papercut illustrations. Without the explanation I wouldn't have guessed that the artist was working in this medium (sliced-up bits of black and white paper); the resulting bold but detailed pictures could be the product of a very sure pen. Moroski blends the technique well with the subject matter, avoiding realism in favor of more surrealistic themes (my favorite being "A Fish House In A Wish Mouse"). There's a total of 38 illustrations here, each appealingly strange, providing cut-out windows into an alternative reality. Moroski write to call them "art-toons"; that fits, as they're no more detailed than the average comic but a good deal more thought-provoking. (40 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 spiral-bound)

Gerry Reith, *NEUTRON GUN* (\$5.95 from Neither/Nor Press, PO Box 8043, Ann Arbor, MI 48107): This is the second edition of the book, and so I present the second edition of my review. Like the book itself, it contains minor emendations and additions.

Gerry Reith was a brilliant young writer and anarcho-savant. He was also my friend. He was all this and much more before he blew his brains out across his typewriter in the deserted Wyoming night. The FBI was behind part of it. So was a woman. But the largest factor in Gerry's death, I think, was his vision of the world as a harsh, fucked-up, and ultimately un-funny place.

The book is a fitting testament to Gerry's skill as a writer and thinker. He died before it came out, but had corrected the galleys, so it's even possible that he himself looked on it as his last words. A collection of short stories, by Gerry and his co-conspirators (including Ed Lawrence, Gregor Tomc, and Carly Sommerstein), *NEUTRON GUN* is literature designed to seduce and disturb.

It fulfills this purpose admirably well. Gerry and company speak in riddles, in parables, in metaphors -- in just about anything other than plain English, for Gerry's vision of the world and its future was too horrible to be put into plain words. Instead, we get glimpses and snippets of the world, pre- and post-revolutionary, and the people who live (and die) in it. Gerry was at his prime when writing in an anti-political vein; the stories here are among his best.

Of the 11 stories here, the standout for me is "Cost-Benefit Equations", a chilling tale of revolution gone so far underground that it can no longer find the light, in a United States where there is no longer any light to be found. Forgive my oblique description and reluctance to speak more openly; as the publisher says, "Some people will say that mere 'ideas' cannot be dangerous...well, they've just never had any ideas like these!"

The second edition is expanded by a couple more of Gerry's Mintrue barrages of posterist propaganda, plus excerpts from Gerry's correspondence with others about the stories in this book. It's not a major change, but if you're as fascinated by these stories as I am, it's an essential update and one well worth springing for. (72 pp. tpb)

Hans Reusch, *SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENT* (\$3.95 from Civitas, PO Box 26, Swain, NY 14884): Reusch makes a two-pronged hardcore attack on vivisection: "Animal tests are misleading for science and corruptive for morals and must therefore be abolished by law." The first point receives most of his attention, as early on he states:

"Since animals react differently from man, every new product or method tried out on animals must be tried out again on man, through careful clinical tests, before it can be considered safe. This rule knows no exceptions. Therefore, tests on animals are not only dangerous because they may lead to wrong conclusions, but they also retard clinical investigation, which is the only valid kind."

He introduces much particular evidence on this count, from the fact that penicillin kills guinea pigs to the fact that porcupines can drink prussic acid. He also points out historic cases, for example in determining the functioning of the liver, where researchers were misled by animal

experimentation. What he does not do is provide a convincing argument that we can never learn anything from vivisection that is applicable to man -- a general conclusion that cannot be proved by citing particulars.

Still, that logical hole aside, this is a strong book for the anti-vivisectionist. Many of the cases which are often cited as justifying animal research, from diabetes to Thalidomide, are debunked here. It's also strong in another sense: you need a strong stomach to read it cover to cover. The graphic descriptions of abusive "research", from the eighteenth century to the present, are enough to make one physically ill. So on emotional and humanitarian grounds, Reusch's evidence is quite strong -- and not all outdated, as the cases continue right through to the original publication in the mid-seventies. I'm just not convinced on scientific grounds. (446 pp. pb)

Jonathan Robbins, *KEEP YOUR REALITY (I NEVER LIKED IT)* (\$2) and *SEARCH FOR SODOM AND GOMORRAH* (\$2) (from Verlag Golem, PO Box 3414, Providence, RI 02906): A couple of chapbooks from the publisher of the *MOORISH SCIENCE MONITOR* and *SHOPAR BLAST*. *KEEP YOUR REALITY* is an autobiographical tale, told in

poem and prose, of the writer's conversion from hardboiled scientific history to a proudly credulous Judaism, apparently engendered by travels in the Holy Land. The writer ends up by obliquely considering some parallels between the exodus and today, arguing (if I understand him aright) that all of modern society is our Egypt and that we ought to loot the place and get out. (12 pp. chapbook)

SEARCH, on the other hand, is something more peculiar. Subtitled "A Revisionist History of the Dead Sea Holocaust!!!", it is published under the imprimatur of the Committee to Restore Sodom and Gomorrah. The scriptural references are obscure to me, but it seems to be argued that the burning of Sodom and Gomorrah represents the birth of homophobia in Judaism, and the final split between the male and female parts of the self. The authors present a variety of pictures, collages, and clippings on homosexual practices among various semitic peoples as evidence for the naturalness of their cause. (24 pp.)

SEMIOTEXT[E] USA (\$8.95 from Autonomedia, PO Box 568, Brooklyn, NY 11211): Incredible. That's a word that I try to stay away from in writing reviews, but in this case it fits neatly. This is the 13th issue of *Semiotext(e)*, but being the size of a phone book and some three years in production, I think it belongs in this section. As the title suggests, it's a tour of the U.S. underground (with brief excursions over various borders), and features work from hundreds of the best writers and artists out there today. Many of the names are familiar to me from FF contacts of one sort or another; others are new and delightful.

I can't do justice to everything here, so let me just mention a few of the high points. The piece I enjoyed most is Robert Anton Wilson's "Coincidence", an extended chunk of his musings on *FINNEGAN'S WAKE*, but of course touching on zillions of other subjects. Some of the best strips from *ANARCHY COMICS* are reprinted in this volume, as are some of the strangest posters from *Anti-Authoritarians Anonymous*. Bob Black is represented with *THE ABOLITION OF WORK*, featuring all-new graphics. Rudy Rucker is right near the start with his "Eschatology Rant", and Allen Ginsberg and others contribute some fine homoerotic poetry. (Incidentally, five book printers refused to touch this project, and even the sixth left out four pages of sexual musings, which come in a plastic envelope at the end).

All in all, this is a wonderful graphic and textual experience, put together with loving care and obviously much sweat. Nearly everything is typeset, the graphics are matched to the written pieces, and various nifty touches lend coherence to the whole design. I led off with a single word -- let me finish with two: **BUY THIS!** (352 pp. 8 1/2 x 11 perfect bound)

Bob Sheridan, *SONGS TO STARE BY* (\$1.75 from 10922 Fortune Ave., Cleveland, OH 44111): A collection of drawings by the guy who puts out *POOT* [see the *ZINES* section]. These are indeed things that need staring at, because each drawing is composed of dozens of distorted shapes or vaguely suggestive lines, put together in such a fashion as to require much puzzling and turning of the page to extract any meaning. Sort of psychedelic graphic art that's run in the rain. The first picture comes with a key to the contents, but after that, you're on your own. (21 pp. 8 1/2 x 11)

Chuck Taylor, *ONLY A POET* (Slough Press, PO Box 1385, Austin, TX 78767): Somehow Chuck has managed a career as a poet despite the world we live in. This book, though, is not poetry. Rather, it's a collection of essays written to other poets and to the world at large, seeking to explain his life and work.

Divided into two sections called "Poetry Theoretical" and "Poetry Practical", *ONLY A POET* is filled with pleasant, laid-back, craftful writing. In the theoretical section we can read about the relation of poetry to politics, spirituality, or money, among other things. Or muse with Chuck on the dullness of poetry readings or consider the supposed advantages of regionalism. Best in this section, though, is the uproariously funny one-act play "Star-Spangled, All-American Poetry Reading".

On the practical side, we get to see how Chuck has gotten his work to the world. There are essays on doing poetry via radio, on self-publishing, on poetry contests, and on various jobs open to poets: Artist-in-the-Schools, CETA, prison workshops. It comes across quite clearly that one must make sacrifices to be a poet in this country, whether that's good or bad. The last essay finally puts a happy end on the section, as it talks about Chuck's current business of running a bookstore. It doesn't pay as well as being Malcolm Forbes, but it puts him in contact with readers, gives him time to write, and makes him sound happy. A nice book for the beginning poet and non-poet alike. (180 pp. pb)

Roy Taylor, *AMERICAN PIE* (\$3 from PO Box 524, Palmer, TX 75152): "An Explanation and Interpretation" of Don McLean's famous rock song, this one is unintentionally hilarious. What Taylor finds in the words to "American Pie" is an allegory about the fall and rise of Christian America, paralleling the Song of Moses in Deuteronomy 32. Now, he manages to give a line-by-line interpretation of the song supporting this idea, but I still don't believe him -- since I've seen a more convincing line-by-line interpretation pulling out all the stuff about sixties rock groups. I'm pretty sure that the latter is the stuff McLean put in, even if Taylor can pull out something else. A case study in human ingenuity. (20 pp. 8 1/2 x 11)

John Thorne, *JUST ANOTHER BOWL OF TEXAS RED* (\$3 from Jackdaw Press, PO Box 622, Castine, ME 04421): A pamphlet from the press that publishes *SIMPLE COOKING* magazine. Subtitled "Chili con Carne: the Myth and the Makings", this is a combination of history and cooking advice, tracing the fiery

dish of the Southwest from the buffalo roast to the chili cook-off. Of course Thorne throws in his own advice on what goes into good chili, advice which I mainly agree with (though I might go a bit heavier on the seasonings than he does). But, as he says, one of the primary purposes of chili is to give cooks something to argue about. Alas, these days I suppose I'd be laughed out of the club; vegetarian chili gets a well-deserved trouncing on the last few pages. But I can still savor it from the good old days. (24 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2)

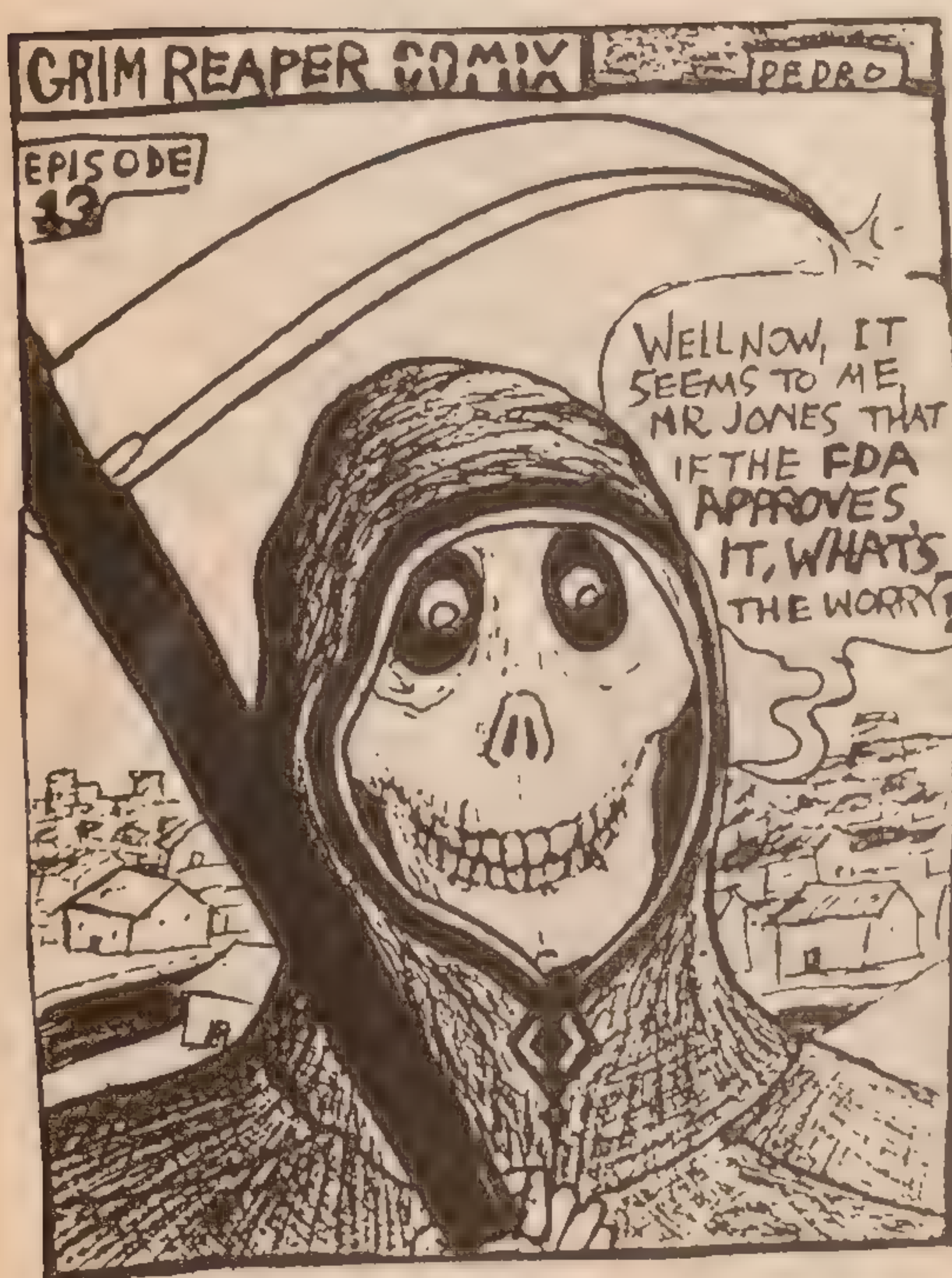
Mark Twine II, *THE GREAT HA-HA-HA CONSPIRACY* (\$1 from PO Box 727, La Jolla, CA 92038-0727): A slightly twisted short story from a man who has been busy figuring out the world while on his day-to-day job as a martini factory inspector. He's been concentrating on explaining why the stores all close just as you get there, at three minutes to five, and he finally gets the chance to hear the masterminds of the conspiracy plotting. Of course, being a conspiracy, they've got him covered, as you'll find in the end. At least as believable as most of the other conspiracy stuff I've reviewed. (10 pp. 8 1/2 x 11)

Richard Wilson, *THE KID FROM OZONE PARK & OTHER STORIES* [Drumm Booklet #27] (\$3.50 from Chris Drumm, Books, PO Box 445, Polk City, IA 50226): Chris is a SF bookseller and publisher who obviously puts loving care into his productions. Wilson was a reasonably well-known science fiction writer of the early 60's (he died this year), and this collection contains 8 short stories, all in their first appearance.

It's a nice selection, and Wilson has a nice narrative voice. They range from surreal ("Harry Protagonist, Inseminator General") to sfnal ("Green is the Color") to nostalgic (the title story). The best of the bunch, though, is "The Greater Powers", easily the most depressing anti-nukewar story I've ever read, which is saying something. In 7 pages Wilson does more to make nuclear war unacceptably frightening than most writers have done with whole books at their disposal. (64 pp. 4 1/4 x 7)

Rupert Wondolowski, *NIGHTMARE RUBBER* (\$2 from 5107 Whiteford Ave., Baltimore, MD 21212): A chapbook of surreal stories. Wondolowski has an extremely terse style, with words strung together to suggest sentences and actions but not quite spelling things out:

"With every spasm and contraction in Tim's throat and stomach a cable pulled hard at his testes. Biological eggplant throat lodge, eyes bulged. He crawled thousand pound headcheese back to phone."



So rather than stories these tend to be pointillist renditions of events in an alternate universe, well-designed to shock and disturb the reader without being crystal clear. There are also drawings and collages, including a hand-colored page with bits of photos pasted on. Intriguing but difficult. (22 pp. 5 1/2 x 8 1/2)

BOOK NOTES:

* The Australian Book Source (c/o Susan Curry, 1309 Redwood Ln., Davis, CA 95616) does one thing, and does it in quite some depth: imports books from Australia. If you're thinking about moving to Oz, or just want to learn more about the funny way they talk, this is the place to start looking. A buck should get you their latest catalog.

* The Central American Resource Center (PO Box 2327, Austin, TX 78768) has published the DIRECTORY OF CENTRAL AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS, with contact addresses for 1000+ activist groups. \$16.25 postpaid.

* Tom Davis Books (PO Box 1107, Aptos, CA 95001) will send you a catalog of political conspiracy books for a 22 cent stamp. He features 7 books on Chappaquiddic, 2 on Malcolm X, and an astounding 85 on the JFK assassination. He also sent me a pile of xeroxes on the Irangate machinations, dating back to the 1980 presidential campaign -- I dunno if copies are available, but it's all culled from relatively major media like THE NATION and the LONDON OBSERVER.

* Dawn Press (PO Box 137, Lincoln Park, MI 48146) sent along announcements of three books: ANARCHISTS (a 2-act play), ANARCHO-HEALTHCARE, and FREE LOVE: A POLITICAL APPROACH.

* Falcon Press (3660 N. 3rd St., Phoenix, AZ 85012) publish strange books by the likes of Aleister Crowle, Robert Anton Wilson, Israel Regardie, and Tim Leary. The prices are more than reasonable for this sort of thing and the selection, while fairly small, looks to be of high quality, without a lot of filler on crystals and colored light.

* Free Forum Books (1800 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102) say they're "the only store-front libertarian-owned bookstore in the United States." They have a 28-page catalog of some of their wares that you can probably get by asking.

* The Harleian Miscellany Club (Route 10, Box 52-A, Florence, SC 29501) is a books club for Libertarians and others of such ilk. Write for more details and their latest catalog.

* L'Insecurite Sociale (B.P. 243, 75564 Paris Cedex 12, FRANCE) sent me a copy of Fredy Perlman's ANTISEMITISME ET PROGROME DE BEYROUTH, a 32-page pamphlet that is a translation of an essay that appeared in FIFTH ESTATE. They have a list of other French-languages "Textes Disponibles" available.

* The INTERNATIONAL BLACKLIST, a directory of anarchist and anti-authoritarian groups worldwide, should be coming out with a new edition soon. If you think you have any information to add to it, write to Brian Kane, PO Box 590052, San Francisco, CA 94115.

* LBT Publisher (PO Box 964, New York, NY 10150) sent me a pamphlet that's free for the asking, promoting their wares. Chief among these is a series of books on Voodoo (only \$165). They also offer the services of Voodoo masters to do the work for you, as well as books on making money, getting straight A's, and getting laid. Written in semi-amusing stilted

English.

* Loompanics (PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368) sent me a copy of their 1987 Summer Supplement to the main catalog. It's 16 pages of new books for sale, ranging from HOW TO SURVIVE - AND PROFIT FROM - THE COMING CURRENCY RECALL to THE CHILD ABUSE INDUSTRY. Also includes an interview with saboteur/author Vic Santoro. You can get a copy for a buck.

* McClintock Books (PO Box 3530, Warren, OH 44485-0530) continues to send me lists of books for sale, mainly in SF, fantasy and related genres but including occasional strange rarities. A couple of bucks will get you on to Dave's mailing list. His prices range from a couple of bucks to a couple of hundred. Lately he's been getting a bit cranky so if you're a lookie-loo I suggest that you not bother writing. On the other hand his catalog #76, titled "FUTILITY: THE MAGAZINE OF PARANOID REALISM" is chattier than ever and features a book-sellers cartoon and editorial what-not, as well as prices on 450 items from a few bucks to a few thousand. Go for it if you think you might buy something.

* MEDUSA #2 (Mark Everett Weaver, 2807 Rio Grande #2, Austin, TX 78705) is a catalog of rare and out-of-print books, with a fairly heavy dose of arcane and fantasy as well as literature and non-fiction. A few stamps'll get you a copy.

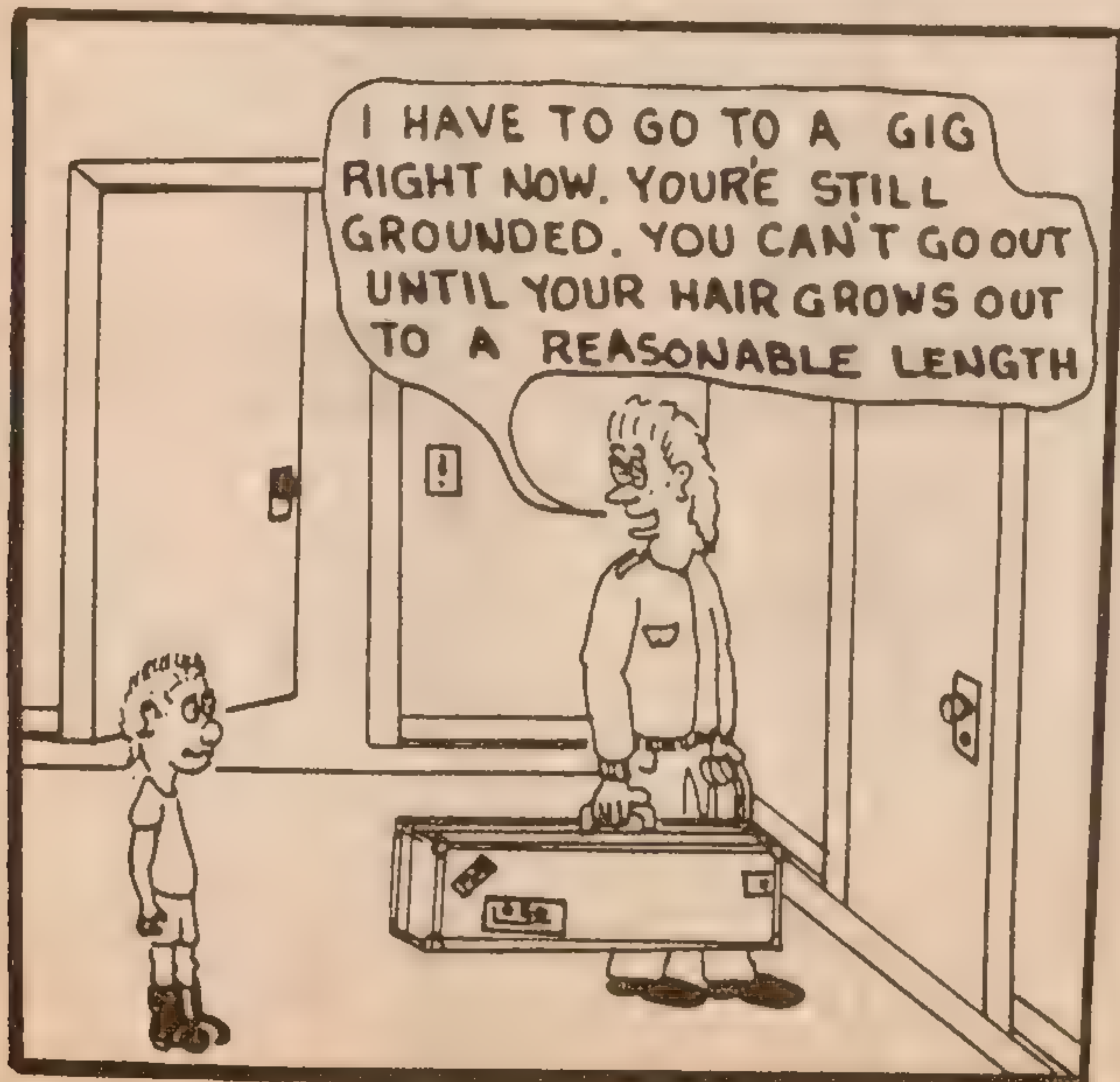
* Pyramid Books and the New-Age Collection (214 Derby St., Salem, MA 01970) sell a bunch of crystal stuff and mystical jewelry in addition to Tarot cards and tomes like HUMAN ENERGY SYSTEMS and OPENING TO CHANNEL. You can probably get their slick catalog for the asking.

* Stride is an English publisher of poem and prose. Their latest catalogue is available from their American agent (Thomas Wiloch, 43672 Emrick Dr., Canton, MI 48187) for a stamp.

* Underwood-Miller (515 Chestnut St., Columbia, PA 17512-1233) publish collectors' editions of science fiction books. Their recent catalog is full of Dick, Vance, Silverberg and even Stephen King. Write if you have lots of money to spend.

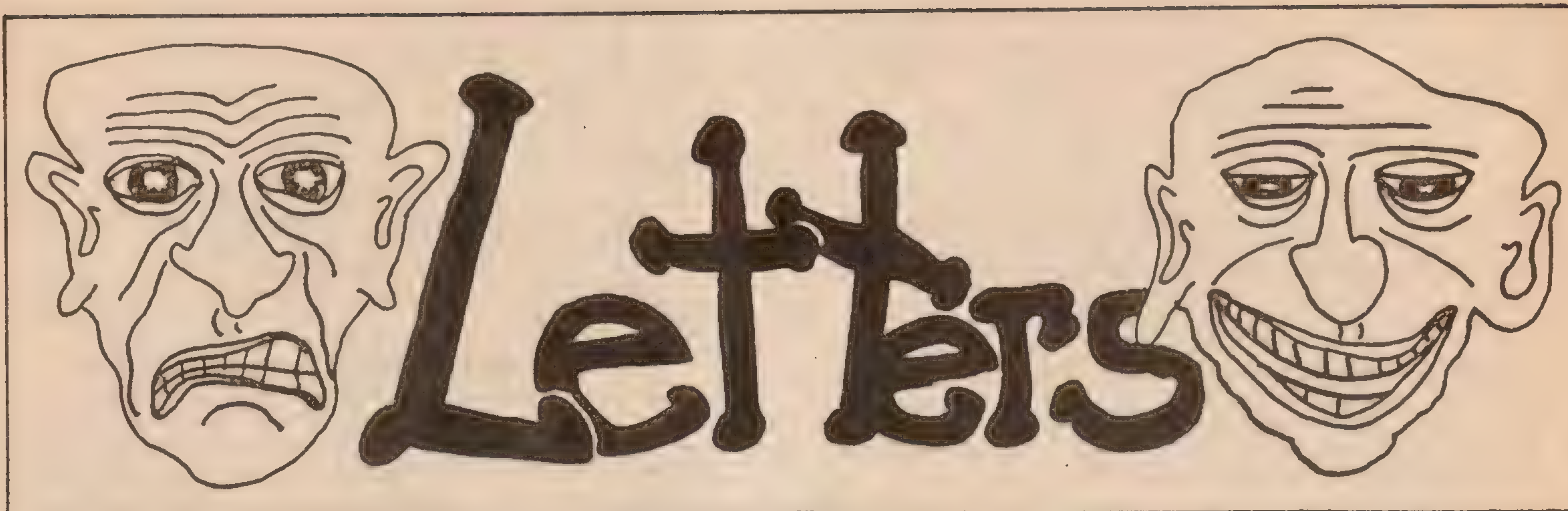
* Weiser's Consciousness Catalog 1987 (Samuel Weiser, Inc., PO Box 612, York Beach, ME 03910) features 30 pages of "Books for Personal Growth with a focus on Body, Mind & Spirit".

* Mark Ziesing Books (PO Box 806, Willimantic, CT 06226): Mark just put out his Newsletter #63, a book catalog that I actually read and order from. Half the fun is in seeing Marks comments on the best and worst of new SF and related works. He gets in a fair smattering of fancy autographed editions and the like, publishes his own beautiful books, and will order stuff for you. And he's a great guy to boot. What else can a reader want?



65





FF is great! 20 new readers from it!

--Tori Bergquist

THE SORCERER'S SCROLLS

A few words in defense of the SMALL PRESS BOOK REVIEW, to which I regularly contribute, on which you bestowed some well-aimed ridicule. It is true that its range is on the one hand more narrow (by excluding periodicals and chapbooks) and on the other more broad (books like STALACTITES OF YEMEN and PRINCIPLES OF MORTUARY SCIENCE, etc.) than will suit some. Personally, I find the former exclusion justifiable on practical grounds and the latter inclusions refreshing as a change of pace. There is more to the small press than the politics, lit, art and music which dominate the marginals milieu. Librarians buy many books of the SPBR type and why not a publication that reviews the ones that don't emanate from the corporate publishers?

Sure, the rag is aspiring to respectability, but the fact that I appear there shows that it's not too hidebound....The fact that it favorably reviewed THE ABOLITION OF WORK AND OTHER ESSAYS of course has absolutely nothing to do with my approbation.

--Bob Black

/* Oh, sure, there are good reasons for reviewing the books that SPBR tackles. And there's nothing wrong with a little respectability -- I wouldn't mind enough to pay for groceries myself. But you won't see SPBR in these pages any more because they commit the cardinal sin: they refuse to trade with me. So it goes. */

At this point, we fear that you may mistakenly label Archonism as "exclusivist," or as "quasi-totalitarian," or as "elitist beyond reason," or worse. While we certainly acknowledge a healthy measure of "constructive elitism" in terms of standards of leadership, we definitely are not exclusivist or totalitarian in terms of our envisioned sharing of power in an Archonist State which we should construct for American Society. We specifically contemplate a political system in which Archonists would exercise the power of veto, some power of special initiative, clear power of superintendence at all levels, and definite powers of meaningful deliberation -- with definite powers of meaningful participation for others of various persuasions at various levels. While Archonist principles would clearly guide policy and resulting actions, others would receive definite consideration for legitimate concerns and opportunity for expression of legitimate concerns. Archonist powers of veto and superintendence would simply preclude dangerous mischief, such as Zionist manipulation of policy, Zionist tyrannizing over the consciences of others, and Zionist precipitation of American military involvement for an unworthy, unnecessary purpose....

We should advise that you be particularly cautious in your review of Archonism and of Archonist Intent and that you refrain from negative statements which may be unjustifiable,

unfair, and vulnerable to refutation. Archonist Epistles treating diverse subjects have appeared in newspapers in many states since 1965. We just may have on file published statements which can demonstrate the untruth and unfairness of ill-conceived criticism.

--Bill Knaus

Archonist Regent

/* Oh, I see. The rest of us can express ourselves, be considered, and then do whatever you damned well please -- all to save us from tyranny, of course. No thanks. I don't particularly care to be ruled by someone who is specifically against anarchy, women's lib, gay liberation, and labor unions, among other nasty "pressure groups" singled out by your literature. As to your last paragraph, good reviews in FF can't be bought -- and they certainly can't be procured by threats. */

I just got the new issue of F5. I haven't had a chance to go through it yet, but a few things caught my eye -- especially some things that really bothered me.

The first, and main disturber was your decision not to review "hate" literature and to cut down on evangelical, financial and other "slick" publications. I agree that TIME MAGAZINE doesn't belong in the pages of F5, but I think you'll lose a lot of value by eliminating these other listings. Many of us who disagree with these publication as much as you do, nevertheless read them to find out what "the other side" is thinking. People ALREADY on that side know where to get them, those of us with few direct contacts (who should I ask, Psychodrama?) rely on you to provide us with that information. If you stop reviewing these mags, you will not be hurting their cause but you will be preventing others from seeing and understanding (not sympathizing, but understanding) that point of view.

I also find it interesting that you mention the IHR publications with the hate literature. I'm not so sure that those guys are a hate group, although they are used by hate groups. They simply challenge the traditional historical view of WWII. So does Noam Chomsky.

On a couple of other matters: OPTION is not as freewheeling a magazine as you might think. They used to have in their masthead "independent and alternative," now they are just "alternative." Their letters section is all either pats on the back, criticisms of individual reviews, or looney critics who say that they're too "far out." They have never mentioned their continuing ad policy of taking major-label advertisers, or their new policy of reviewing major-label records. Also, they have never mentioned SOUND CHOICE -- even critically in the magazine and refused to establish any sort of dialog with them. Finally, they only review cassettes that are "well packaged for mass distribution," and that leaves out a whole lot of music. I still think OPTION has value, but it is certainly NOT attempting to "cover any particle of different or independent music that hits the marketplace."

Finally, why not publish some of the messages here as letters to the editor" in F5. That might encourage some people to call in the BBS and leave messages, because they might see print and be distributed to more than the dozen people who use this board. It also would serve as a bridge between the electronic and the print media.

--Mykel Board

/* As you might have surmised from the last paragraph, this letter began as a message on the EFF Bulletin Board, and I think Mykel has a fine idea; I will be moving selected messages from that board to this column in the future. Now for more substantive matters.

I'm not ceasing reviews of the slick stuff because I disagree with it but because I see it as peripheral to the main topic of FF. I will continue to mention and review

particularly outrageous or interesting things no matter where they come from.

Hate lit, though, I'm sick of reading. The IHR gets classed with the other Hate lit for two reasons. First, despite an alleged interest in all sorts of history, they devote most of their space to Holocaust Revisionism. Second, they do an awful lot of anti-semitic Jew-baiting.

Thanks for the notes on OPTION. I hadn't known most of those things, and mistook length for comprehensiveness. */

I was amazed at the people who were mad at you on the letter page! It's like they were counting solely on your zine to make them famous, and you disappointed! I think it's hilarious and I hope you retain your sense of humour about the whole thing.

--Jay Millen

Thank you for your review of Constitution Paper #2. I am writing in its defense....

I don't think you thought about your comment on my work, because people WILL often pay for a report, to avoid having to do research in the library themselves; but really I am surprised that you are so cavalier at an interpretation of the Constitutional era which exposes it for the hypocrisy it was. America was NEVER, really, the land of the Free....

I feel that your criticism was "academic", which I think is somewhat unfair, although I understand it, because I had to "whip up" a meaningful document in a short period of time.

--Marc Eric Augustus R.

/* I didn't mean to leave the impression that I disagreed with your interpretation of the Constitution as an act designed to protect the elite's privileges. Rather, it was old news to me, a thesis that I accept, and in fact that I think of as generally well-known. This is no doubt due to just the academic bias you mention, in that I am immersed in a high-powered academic program including a good bit of history. Perhaps you're getting the word to some new ears. */

I think it's inevitable that someone with as prominent a position as yourself would take a lot of flak for what are, after all, one person's opinions. When somebody, like Denise Dee or Jake Berry, has legitimate complaints and expresses them legitimately, I think you do a good job of keeping the discussion open for all participants, even admitting your error in cases where it's necessary.

But I guess Frank Gaard doesn't realize that I bet just about every reader of FS5 has figured out that they would like a zine based on what you disliked about it. As you said, there's no such thing as bad publicity, and there have been times when I've sent for something you said you didn't like. Does Gaard think we're all sheep following your every whim? He attacks where he could be trying to explain.

--Luke McGuff

Thanks for last F'sheet 5 & listing. If you could make some mention of the content of the issue you review, though, I'd appreciate it. I appreciate being listed, but the last review poretty much just said "Here's another one".

--Jay Harber

NOTES FROM OBLIVION

/* Yeah, you're right. Part of the problem is that I have to keep writing fresh reviews of lots of things I already know about. The other part is that I need to introduce things to new readers as well as mention content to old ones. It's challenging to do all this in short reviews, but that's all I have space and time for. If I ever do real damage to the intent or contents of your zine, feel free to write and correct me. Meanwhile, I'll try to do my best -- undoubtedly with slip-ups now and then. */

The Kindred Community is looking for "a few good anarchists", pagans, etc., crazy enough for voluntary poverty, working with homeless people, etc. Are you brave enough to live in Des Moines, IA, surrounded by millions of ears of corn and the 4 year salivating presidential locusts? Write to Kindred Community, 1337 6th Ave., Des Moines, IA 50314.

--Thornton Kimes

/* No, I'm not that crazy. But some of my readers might be. */

The proper adjective for someone or something from Cornwall is CORNISH, for Brittany, BRETON.

--Walt Noiseux

/* Walt was the first one to tell me this, but far from the last... */

I've been thinking you could provide us readers with quite a service if you were to list the number of pages in the zine being reviewed. Yeah, I know it would be a pain with all these avantgarde unpaginated things, but even an estimate would be helpful. There are some painfully slim zines out there with rather fat prices. Think of it as a public service.

--James Reid-Cunningham

/* Yeah, I know. I've been holding off on this because I see pages per dollar as one of the worst ways to rate zines, though I try to indicate when the buyer is getting an exceptionally good (or bad) buy. But enough people have written to ask about this that I think I'll give it a whirl in the next issue. */

We were momentarily dismayed when we read your review of SPIRITUAL REVOLUTION and discovered you're a skeptical materialist like so many of the old-time anarchists and socialists. We'd assumed you subscribe to some version of the New Age spiritual viewpoint shared by the majority of present-day radical and underground writers. Oh well, your review was still the longest one in the book section of FF#23, and you described the contents and viewpoint of our book quite accurately, in spite of your obvious distaste for it....

In any case, we think that FF is a very useful magazine, what the old time SF fans called a "Necessary Fanzine", and we intend to keep on sending you our publications as long as we're willing to trade, because we expect to get a few addresses of potential SR readers out of every issue. It's a little disconcerting to read reviews of our work by someone who refuses to accept the same kind of evidence we personally accept to prove things, but you're still a very good and a very fair reviewer.

--Kyle & Kerry Griffith

/* Hold on here, let's not go too far overboard. No doubt from your perspective I may look like a thoroughgoing "skeptical materialist", just as from mine you resemble gullible spiritualists. Both characterizations are undoubtedly oversimplifications. I stay fairly close to materialist paradigms because they seem to work to explain most things I'm interested in, but I try to remain open to other views. And my spiritual life is not completely empty.

As for the evidence necessary to prove things, part of the problem may be that I haven't seen some of what you're calling evidence for your views, and it's not commonly accepted in the circles I move in. To use an imperfect analogy, you might not believe that Frederick Taylor's views on social engineering via time study derive from an early mechanical engineering attack on the problem of adjusting leather drive belts, whereas my academic research has convinced me of the truth of this proposition. It's likely outside of your universe of discourse, and I wouldn't expect you to accept it on my authority and assurance that I knew good evidence for its truth. This is how I feel about your views on reincarnation.

TWISTED IMAGE by Ace Backwards @ms



At any rate, do keep sending me review material. The only way your stuff will ever get accepted is if it's available for critiques as well as praise. */

At first glance, I figured your publication was an elaborate spoof -- and I'm still not sure but now I'm convinced enough to risk my \$11.

--Bob Clack

Dear PJB,

I have been writing poetry and publishing ALCHEMIST long enough now that, in general, reviews don't affect me one way or another. Still, when confronted with such blatant ignorance I felt that I had no choice but to respond. It's obvious that what little understanding you have of the haiku must have come from a single Friday afternoon English class when you were in grade nine. To reduce haiku simply to syllable counting is about as intelligent as saying "These poems of yours aren't any good, they don't even rhyme". Where have you been the last 30 years? Most Western haiku poets gave up syllable counting in the 50's....It's fine with me if you didn't like the haiku in ALCHEMIST 10, but to dismiss them all simply because the syllables don't add up to seventeen is ridiculous.

--Marco Fraticelli

THE ALCHEMIST

/* P.J. Bellomo responds: If I emerge from seclusion again in 30 years to find people pointing to your letter and saying "What a good sonnet" I'll be equally baffled. Perhaps you might see through your blinding hostility to read the entire review -- I hardly dismiss anything. You may have taught me that I need a new understanding of haiku, but there's another lesson here. */

It's too bad that magazines aren't required to have the same product information that foods are. Perhaps "Nicaragua in Focus" [see FF23 p. 29] should be subtitled "The journal from an organization which purports to be a lay Roman Catholic Human Rights Organization, but which is in fact a CIA front organization."

Might affect how some people will respond to the contents.

--Matt Love

Why no HOLLYWOOD BOOK & POSTER NEWS listing in #23? Ya know, even if we're a little late in getting a new issue out we still send out the latest we have until then. So please don't stop listing us.

--Jaime

/* It's like this: I list things when I get them, as simple as that. If you publish once a year, expect one listing a year. It's the only way I can be at all sure that the things I mention are available. Not everyone sends out black-bordered cards when they quit publishing. */

You have a clear bias toward the easy-to-grasp, the easily achieved, creative work with instant impact. You strike me as being someone who watches too much television, turning channels impatiently. Did you believe you have the sensibility to understand the breadth and depth of the publications you barely review. Do you believe you provide a service? I think you should cut-back FF to what truly interests you, whatever that is.

--Collective Unconscious

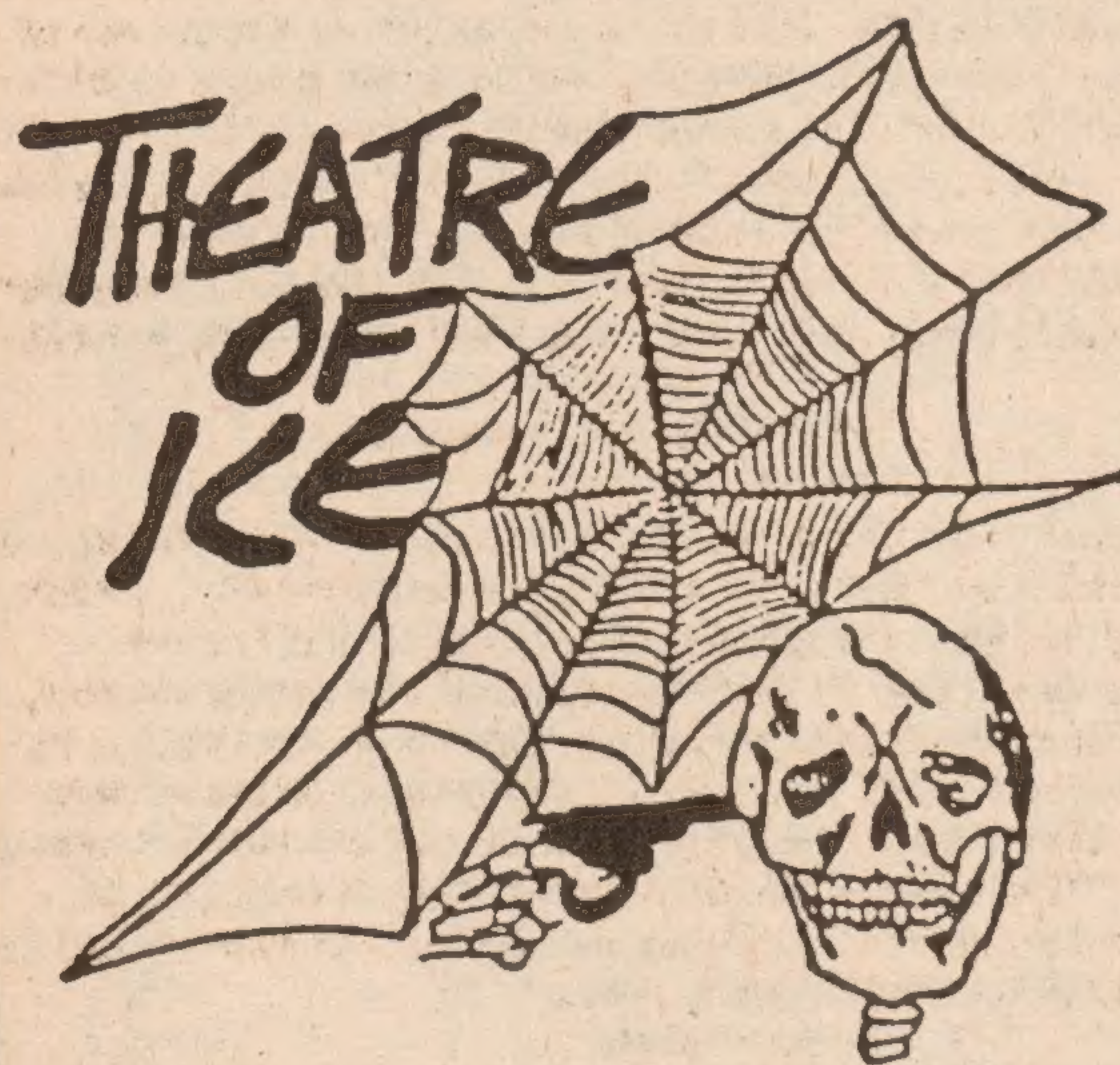
/* Hey, lighten up. If you'd had the sense (or courage?) to include your address I would have sent back your two bucks. (Or are you just someone who got a bad review?) And just as an aside, I can't remember the last time I watched television. */

Please encourage those who wrote last ish about distributing how-to-publish info. If more knew how, more would, leading to more zines, more choices and, ultimately, a happier world.

--Brian Blight

I would be interested in participating in an APA for the publishers of small zines. I have thought about starting something like that myself, but I'm keeping too many balls in the air as it is. I'm not so much interested in what my printer does in the back room, tho I would like to know what magic words I should say to him to get the results I want. Nor do I care much about how to please bureaucrats since my strategy is to avoid them. I would respond to an unpleasant encounter with the breed by going deeper underground. What I'd like to kick around are nitty gritty mechanical details: like how do you cope with your mailing list, or do layout, sources of

68



HEAR WHAT THEY'VE HEARD

A COOL DARK PLACE TO DIE (1985)
MOUSE BLOOD (1983-85)
LOVE...IS LIKE DYING (1984-86)
FROM THE COLD DARK REGIONS (1987)

All tapes are C-60

\$4.00 EACH

423 N CRESTON
APT #154
MESA, AZ 85203

"Brilliant, one can imagine oneself being faced with a quiet cold corpse, and suddenly blood burts forth from within and covers you... densely rich cemetery songs"

EARMEAT (Ontario)

"Their ominous overtones permeate fast-paced guitar/noise raves and slower/experimental/industrial dirges, making for an eerie but non cliché horrific mood"

MAXIMUM ROCK'N'ROLL (Berkley)

"Hard, razor-sharp, creepy-crawly rock'n roll with echo-like wolf howls...these maniacs were born to score horror flicks"...

OPTION (Los Angeles)

"They haven't failed on a cassette yet...droning keyboards, fuzz effected guitar riding on metallic progressions...the cataclysmic sounds make you realize what drugs are for"

UNCLE FESTER (Minneapolis)

"At the end of listening immense disgust and real despair become clear...I am all ears."

OPEN SYSTEM PROJECT (Belgium)

"Raw primitive rock music whose subject matter deals with the morbid and macabre. Features a savage, echoey guitar sound and vocals straight-from-the-crypt"...

CAUSE AND EFFECT (Indianapolis)

"Synthesizers projecting ethereal dischords to the back of your head; quiet, but crashing guitars; unconventional percussion, and vocals that sound as if they are about to commit suicide....a great musical talent"...

HIGH OCTANE (England)

"A great substitute for ghost stories around the campfire"...

UN SOUND (San Francisco)

"Whether you call this industrial or horror rock the point is that these guys do it well, and are more accessible to the average listener than most industrial music...this could be the soundtrack to your worst nightmare...some of the scariest music ever"...

FACTSHEET FIVE (New York)

"This makes all previous horror rock efforts sound like the Bay City Rollers...utterly and quasi-insanely intense and hypnotizing...simply the last word in horror leaning sounds. Nobody comes near their competence"

SPORADIC DROOLINGS (New Jersey)

supply for office supplies, graphics, etc. Of course, I have solutions to all these questions, since I've been publishing since 1979. But I'm sure there are smarties out there who can teach even an old dog like me a few new tricks. I'd be willing to pass on what I know. I know a few things that I learned by hard trial & error that I've never seen written down anywhere. I've been thinking I may write some articles for LIVING FREE about how I go about putting out LF. I may still do that in any case.

--Jim Stumm

Another thing I was particularly interested in was Jim Huang's piece in WHY PUBLISH. I'd be very interested in seeing such a column, also I might possibly be of help -- I have been involved in "mainstream" publishing for ten years and know lots of different ways of doing things, also I used to write business and legal advice for small business owners. Through BELLOWING ARK I've gotten a chance to practice what I've preached -- I did all the legal work in setting up the Bellowing Ark Society, which is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation, as well as handling the usual things -- ISSN, 3rd class mail, copyright etc. I know how to do a fairly high-class production on the cheap, and at the moment I'm most interested in marketing -- it seems to me that most folks in small press are doing it out of love, and when you're doing something because you like it it brings up all kinds of marketing considerations that you don't get in commercial publishing, where you're just turning out crap that people want to hear. I would be ecstatic to have an opportunity to hear other serious publishers beef these points over -- I think an apa would be ideal -- yet if you were to publish a column it would reach many people who could benefit...

--Dianne Schoenberg

/* Well, if I get any submissions that look interesting enough, I'll start a HOW TO PUBLISH column in the next issue of FACTSHEET FIVE. Publishers, here's your chance to share production, legal, and marketing tips with hundreds of your peers. For example, Dianne, I'd love to know something of the Bellowing Ark Society -- why it was set up, how much it can pay its employees, how it works -- if you can find the time.
*/

If you have occasion to list reader wants, I am looking for any and all publications that deal with finding missing persons.

--Scott Parker
1035 Iris
Beaumont, TX 77706

I didn't quite understand what you said in #23 -- do I get a free copy for sending you stuff to review?

--a couple of folks

/* Yes, the "R" on your mailing label means that if you send me something, you get a freebie copy to see your review. This also allows you to review FACTSHEET FIVE if you want. Now, this is only courtesy on my part, rather than a trade -- but it works exactly the same way. If you want to know why, talk to a tax lawyer (and then tell me what you found out). So, if you want, you can read "R" as "T" and consider this a trade copy -- but don't tell anyone I told you so. */

I've been doing a radio show on WBAI FM the listener-sponsored Pacifica station here in NYC. One of the things I've started to do is review zines....The show is called "The Moorish Orthodox Radio Hour" & it's on alternate Mondays (actually Tues. morning) from 1 AM to 3:30 AM.

Basically I'm interested in almost anything, altho I can't promise to give much attention to punkzines -- not that I don't love punks, it's just that I don't know very much about music -- & I'm not really interested in what you call HATE LIT at all. Otherwise, anything goes: SF, anarchy, SubG's, type 3's, neo-pagans, marginals, sexual minorities, whacked-out poets and unclassifiables will all be most welcome.

I've also done a few live interviews. I can't promise to interview everybody, but if any editors or zine-oids intend to visit the Big Ape & want to be on the radio, I'll try to fit them in. I won't promise to play any tapes, because basically I do a talk show, but I will turn over tapes to other WBAI producers who DO play new music.

--Peter Lamborn Wilson
c/o WBAI-FM
505 8th Ave.
New York, NY 10018-6587

This note is mostly in response to the last ish of FF, which contains a number of reviews of the experimental underground, including a few of our own things, & being

greatly disappointed that your mag is increasingly becoming less of a networking tool, in the most expansive sense of the word, & in another sense contradicting the very foundation of creativity & imagination...

Specifically it seems the position you have adopted toward publications which have gone beyond traditional furniture such as narrative, character, linear rationality, surface meaning, is simply that you don't understand them, & other than tongue in cheek the "reviews" end there. While as a reviewer I can't expect you to understand them, as an editor it would seem logical to assign these "difficult" publications to people who would not only do them justice but in a few words distill their individual essence. If we are truly of the same macroscopic network, that would be a more useful stance, not render each thing to an approximate obscurity worse than...

Finally I think as a whole it is entirely false to assume that these difficult cutup & visual/verbal publications are not filled with every bit as much meaning, content, vision & instruction as mainstream media. It is puritanical thinking like that which made Joyce & Stein bitter to the end.

--Miekal And

/* Well, I don't get called "puritanical" too often, but actually, I'm quite sympathetic to your point. The problem is that it takes time to learn to navigate through what are, to me, uncharted waters, and I haven't been getting the experimental things in the mail long enough to bring the process to a satisfactory state (it will never be finished) yet. I think my reviews of these things have been getting a bit more useful, and I am deliberately drawing on the resources available to me to make my reviews even better -- things like Bob Grumman's guest reviews and your own work in ANTI-ISOLATION. So keep an eye on me and let me know in a year or so whether I'm doing any better. It's not my intention to dismiss anyone; I just need more practice. But have faith -- when I started this I didn't know anything about pfnazines or Constitutionalists or a dozen other groups either. */

I am impressed greatly with the networking job that FACTSHEET FIVE does among a brilliant collection of mockers and eroders of society. It seems to me that there could be no better way for the Russians to work against the cohesion of our society than to finance FF and the anarcho publications it reviews. Is there any way we could look into this?

--Bag of Water

Somewhere you mention the Strange Company and ask if other people have trouble with them. I have bought stuff from them in the past, and they have really good stuff. Problem is that you sometimes wait months without word of what happened to your money. They have been holding on to some stuff I ordered for so long that I don't remember for sure what it is... They seem like nice folks, but that's no excuse for their business practices. Too bad, really. Scream Press, the California horror book publisher, is the same way, but worse. They have the most beautiful books you ever saw, but they are a drag to deal with.

--Michael J. Lotus

Please inform your readers of my friend's (Joe Cabot, who shares my PO Box) new project: The Gemstone Society, which will be working on gathering and reconciling different versions of the Gemstone Files, verifying the information, and doing the important work of updating the Gemstone File. My version dated back to 1975. Several important things have happened since then: the Christic Institute's lawsuit against what they call "The Secret Team" throws the spotlight on several previously unindicted Gemstone Conspirators -- Ollie North, John Hall, Adolfo Colero, etc.

--Matt Love
PO Box 1865
Olympia, WA 98507

I know what a "throw-up" is: in grafitti wars it's a single-color quickly done piece thrown up over someone else's work, to ensure that this is the throw-up artist's territory. Throw-ups can easily, in a few minutes, destroy elaborate artwork that took hours to paint.

--Mike Pohl





Ferret ©1987

WIRE MOVEMENT #9
A Story for the Back Cover
by Misha

Electronic signals crouch outside your door. Your hands are on fire. You shake them out of your wire hair. Recombinant viruses leap out at you from designer dumpsters. Your careful eyes glow. Metal belches stun your ears. The lead exhaust coats your lungs. You hand brushes the scales of rust. Irradiated fruit. Acid sterilization zones rain down.

Her concertina. Her wire movement. Her ninth. Tear off her terrible mask. Her symphonic wings suspend her in a kimono of

prayer. The maneki-neko lies at her feet.

She pulls your number from the wire. Stasis signals spear her performance eternally into the cosmos. Gnash the mesh that holds her. Quench the practicals. Her mind is a matrix of non-stop digital flickerings.

Outside your door her horrible headress performs wire movement. Her braids of wire reach to your feet. Fifty gallon drums. She ghost dances. You handgame out of sync.

They steal the cathedrals. Their cerecloth is wire mesh. Their instruments are barbed. These children of science perform the ninth movement.

In wire.